

The Middlebury Campus

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MTV site features Otter comedians

By Jess Berry

On Thursday, Sept. 5, a video produced by students from the improv comedy group Otter Nonsense debuted on mtvU, an online offshoot of MTV that focuses on college life and interests.

The video is part of a series mtvU calls "College Quickies," which features a different comedy sketch produced by college students each week. The Otters video, featuring Ben Orbison '12.5 and Greg Dorris '13, is called "Worst Driving Instructor Ever."

MtvU discovered Otter Nonsense when they competed at the College Improv Tournament last year. They won the regional tournament in Boston and went to Chicago to compete in the national tournament. MtvU judged the competition in Chicago and afterward contacted the Otters and various other schools, asking them to submit video clips for a series they were looking to put together.

Dorris, Orbison and Adam Benay '13.5 had already made a few shorts together, which they submitted and then began to make more.

"It became this thing where we realized we can just grab a couple of cameras, and go to the gym and goof around for an hour and a half and bother everyone in the gym," said Dorris. "It was this great opportunity where we had the three of us all together, and we began producing a lot more videos."

After producing and submitting many clips, mtvU asked them to make a video that followed a very specific set of guidelines.

After Orbison and Dorris

shot "Worst Driving Instructor Ever" and sent it to mtvU, Orbison was contacted over the summer by the company. Out of over 1,000 clips sent in by groups across the country, mtvU offered to license their video. Groups from New York University and Northwestern University were also offered the same deal from mtvU.

The group was paid \$100 for the licensing agreement, which has been put into funding for the Otters.

"[Associate Dean of Students for Student Activities and Orientation] J.J. Boggs helped us out a great deal and got the right people [at the College] to look at the agreement and make sure it was all cool," said Orbison.

"The Otters seem to have launched themselves into the national spotlight over the last year," wrote Boggs in an email. "I think this latest agreement with mtvU is an exciting opportunity for them to showcase their work to a global audience."

Dorris said that in addition to Bogg's help, various administrators had to also watch the video in order to give approval, as it is presented on the website representing the College. The same process must be followed for every video the Otters submit in the future.

In "Worst Driving Instructor Ever", Dorris is a nervous teen trying to get his license and Orbison is a drowsy, gaseous and potentially homicidal driving instructor.

The group explained that while most of their videos are made with the three of them together, inspiration occasionally strikes when one, in this case

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FIRST-YEARS ARRIVE ON CAMPUS



COURTESY OF RESLIFE

Stanis Moody-Roberts '11, a member of ResLife, talks with first-years and family members the first week of September. A new batch of about 600 first-years moved into their respective commons to gear up for orientation, which began on Sept. 4th.

Policy changes course evaluations

By Jess Berry

This past May, administrators approved a new policy that offers professors the opportunity to teach courses in which student evaluations are not given to administrators for review.

The policy, effective this fall, allows professors to teach one course every two years with this option at their disposal.

Traditionally, evaluations are first read by administrators, including a promotions committee and reappointments committee, and then given to the professor to read over. The policy change eliminates these steps. Though students will continue to complete the evaluations, only the professor will read them. Professors are not obligated to inform students that their evaluations will not be read by the administration.

Supporters of the policy hope

that the policy changes will give professors greater freedom to experiment in the classroom.

Former Provost and Executive Vice President Alison Byerly, who is on academic leave this year as a visiting scholar in literature at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, spearheaded the policy change. Last year, Byerly appointed the Task Forces on Curricular Innovation to consider pedagogy and decisions related to the overall curriculum at the College.

"In listening to faculty discussion ... it became clear to me that for many faculty, fear of the possible negative consequences of taking chances in the classroom could stand in the way of curricular experimentation," wrote Byerly in an email.

Dean of Faculty and Philip Battell/Sarah Stewart Professor of Biology Andrea Lloyd chaired one of the task forces.

"As a task force we really wanted to think about removing as many barriers to innovation as possible, and this seemed like a pretty simple place to start," wrote Lloyd in an email.

She cited her own experience in reworking her biology class, with the predictable bumps and adjustments that had to be made afterward, as an example for why she believes this policy change is important.

"That experience is not uncommon: teaching takes some trial and error," wrote Lloyd. "There is no way around that — it is really something inherent to the art of teaching. But that trial and error can be nerve wracking — particularly for junior faculty — if you feel like you are going to be judged on those first attempts to do something new and different."

While Byerly said that many

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COLLEGE REMEMBERS SEPTEMBER 11



PHOTO BY JAYI ZHU

The College arranged a 9/11 memorial in front of Mead Chapel, honoring the 11 year anniversary.

Restrooms open to every gender

By Bronwyn Oatley

Renovations are underway to convert two formerly single-gender, multi-stall restrooms in the McCullough Student Center into gender-neutral facilities.

The McCullough pilot project, an initiative designed to create more universally accessible facilities for all members of the college community, will cost the College approximately \$10,000.

In the formerly male-designated multi-stall restroom across from Midd Express, tiles and urinals have been removed and large partitions have been erected between stalls in order to convert the formerly single-gender facility into a gender-neutral space. The sign on the

formerly women's-identified restroom has also been changed to indicate an all-gender facility.

"We wanted to do the washrooms in a pair," wrote Special Assistant to the Dean of the College, Senior Advisor for Diversity Initiatives and one of the key administrative voices in the project Jennifer Herrera in an email.

"If we just changed the signs, and kept the urinals in the men's washroom, it's likely that the bathrooms would have kept their gender designations," she wrote.

The changes represent phase two of the gender-neutral housing project, an initiative de-

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BEYOND THE BUBBLE

BY DANNY ZHANG

As per American political tradition in a general election year, the two major political parties kicked off the 2012 presidential contest after holding their respective national conventions in the last two weeks.

The Republican Party held its second consecutive weather-shortened convention in Tampa, Fla. from Aug. 28-30 while Democrats held theirs from Sept. 4-6 in Charlotte, N.C. The locations of both conventions were strategically chosen, as both Florida and North Carolina are expected to be hotly contested states in the Nov. 6 election.

On the first day of their convention, Republicans officially nominated former Governor Mitt Romney of Massachusetts for president and Representative Paul Ryan of Wisconsin for vice-president. The role call of delegates was more contentious than usual, due to the vocal support of Representative Ron Paul's delegates for their candidate.

The GOP also approved a notably conservative platform at the convention. It promised to extend Bush-era tax cuts, repeal Obama's health care reform law and establish an annual audit of the Federal Reserve. Furthermore, the platform promoted energy exploration on American soil, called marriage the union between one man and one woman and restricted abortion with no exceptions.

In his speech on the final night of the convention, Governor Romney made a direct appeal to those who voted for Obama in 2008. "You know there's something wrong with the kind of job he's done as president when the best feeling you had was the day you voted for him," said Romney.

He also included biographical anecdotes about himself, from his family background to his record as Governor of Massachusetts. Finally, Romney claimed "this president cannot tell us that you are better off today than when he took office," a reference to the tactic that Ronald Reagan used to defeat Jimmy Carter in the 1980 election.

The Republican National Convention also featured many speakers who are perceived to be the future standard bearers of the party, including Governor Chris Christie of New Jersey, Governor Susana Martinez of New Mexico and Senator Marco Rubio of Florida.

The Democrats unanimously re-nominated President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden in their convention. Both spoke on the final night of the event.

Earlier in the week, the Democrats approved a platform that rejected privatization of Social Security and Medicare, sought to extend tax cuts for Americans making less than \$250,000 a year and pushed for higher fuel efficiency standards for cars. Like in 2008, the Democrats promised comprehensive immigration reform. But unlike 2008, they included an affirmation of support for same-sex marriage for the first time in party history.

In his acceptance speech, President Obama called the election "a choice between two different paths for America; a choice between two fundamentally different visions for the future." He summarized his administration's achievements in energy, the economy, education and foreign policy, while promising to make America a nation where "everyone gets a fair shot, and everyone does their fair share and everyone plays by the same rules."

Other notable speakers at the Democratic National Convention included Mayor of San Antonio Julian Castro, who delivered the keynote address, as well as First Lady Michelle Obama and President Bill Clinton.

With seven weeks to go until Election Day, most polls are predicting a very close race. Neither party received a significant "bump" in support after its convention. The quadrennial presidential debates will begin on Oct. 3, in Denver, Colo. The two candidates will face off twice again in October while vice-presidential candidates Joe Biden and Paul Ryan are slated to debate once on Oct. 11th.

Eight professors receive honor of tenure

By Elizabeth Fouhey

Eight members of the College faculty were granted tenure by the Board of Trustees at its meeting in July, following the recommendations made by President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz and the board's Educational Affairs Committee.

The newly promoted professors are Associate Professor of Music Jeffrey Buettner; Associate Professor of Chemistry, Biochemistry and Environmental Studies Molly Costanza-Robinson; Associate Professor of Psychology Kim Cronise; Associate Professor of Spanish Juana Gamero de Coca; Associate Professor of Theatre Cláudio Medeiros; Associate Professor of Mathematics Emily Proctor; Associate Professor of Philosophy Jack Spackman and Associate Professor of Classics Christopher Star.

While tenure is an important topic on college campuses, many students are uninformed about the actual process in which professors are granted tenure.

"There are three criteria that are used to evaluate faculty members: teaching, scholarship and service to the institution," said James Davis, associate vice president of academic affairs and professor of religion. "Of these three, I think it's safe to say that the first two are the most important."

The first step of this process is putting together a tenure dossier — a compilation of the professor's work up to that point. The dossier includes syllabi from past-taught courses, publications, grants and a self-evaluation.

Once this is completed, members of the Promotions Committee and senior faculty in the department sit in on the candidate's classes. In addition, letters of evaluation from students and peers are required.

"There's very good reason for all of this

effort," said Davis. "The College wants to have as much data as possible before the Promotions Committee, so their recommendation to [President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz] is as informed as it can be."

"I think it's healthy for the College to regularly evaluate whether our standards for tenure reflect what we consider most valuable in a Middlebury faculty member," he said.

There is an emphasis on research in the tenure process; however, recently tenured Professor Star said, "I'd say the culture at Middlebury does a good job balancing teaching and research. Having a full year of research leave before tenure is very helpful."

It is the Promotions Committee who makes the recommendation for tenure to Liebowitz, who in turn makes his recommendations to the Board of Trustees. Ultimately, it is the Board of Trustees who grants tenure to faculty members.

Job security is perhaps the most significant benefit of receiving tenure for the newly promoted professors.

"Tenured faculty are in the best position to think innovatively about their teaching, to chart new territory in their research and to provide provocative intellectual leadership in issues of public importance, because tenure assures them that their jobs won't be jeopardized simply because they articulate unpopular positions or experiment with unconventional teaching," said Davis.

While the granting of tenure does grant job security, most professors say that it does not change their day-to-day life.

"I don't believe having tenure will affect how I go about my daily work," said Star. "I am looking to extend my research and teaching into new areas and I feel that

now is a good time to do some exploration and take intellectual risks."

Tim Spears, vice president for academic affairs and professor of American studies, acts as an administrative support during the tenure process and helps aid the Promotions Committee.

"The review process itself can be quite stressful," said Spears. "The stakes are high, and candidates go through a period of months when they are under scrutiny and must await the outcome."

Buettner, a recently tenured professor, discussed the benefits of being tenured, calling tenure "an honor in its own way."

The tenure system is not only an important topic at the College, but also throughout the world of academia.

"In my own opinion, at a time of unprecedented political and economic pressures on higher education, the tenure system remains an essential protection for academic freedom," said Davis.

For the eight members of faculty who were granted tenure this year, Dean of Faculty and Philip Battell/Sarah Stewart Professor of Biology Andrea Lloyd said that now is a time for professors to exhale after a long year full of stress.

Lloyd was granted tenure in 2006.

"I was hit with a 'What next?' moment," she said. "And for me, that was wonderful — I found it liberating to be able to think about my teaching and research as long-term endeavors, and to be able to plan things that might not bear fruit for years."

Looking back on the process of the past year, Buettner said, "I had a positive experience ... I'm also quite happy that it's over."

Star concurred.

"At the risk of sounding flippant, at present the most exciting aspect is having the process be over," he said.

Dalai Lama tickets now available

By Sam Simas

His Holiness the Dalai Lama will visit the College in October and will give two speeches on Friday, Oct. 12 and Saturday, Oct. 13, as part of his tour of several U.S. colleges and universities.

His speech on Friday, Oct. 12, "Educating the Heart," will be open only to students, faculty and staff, and will be an opportunity for the Dalai Lama to tailor his remarks to an audience comprised of only members of the college community. The doors of Nelson Arena will open at 11:45 a.m., and will be closed to further entry at 1:15 p.m. for security reasons.

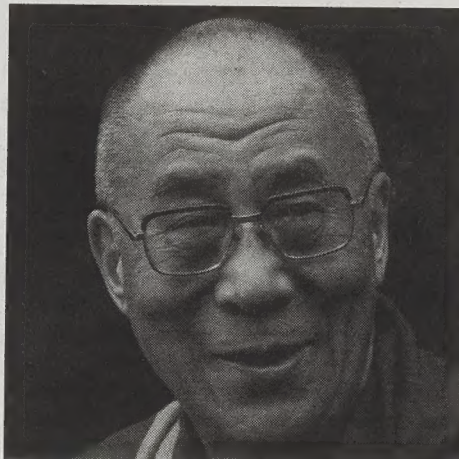
Current students each are entitled to one ticket to this event free of charge, and students began reserving tickets at 12:01 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 12. Faculty and staff tickets for the first lecture will be available online and at box offices beginning Friday, September 14 at 6 a.m., with a limit of two per person.

The Dalai Lama's second speech, "Finding Common Ground: Ethics for a Whole World," will be held on Saturday, Oct. 13 and will be open to the general public. The doors will open at 7 a.m. and be closed at 9 a.m. Ticket sales for the Oct. 13 talk will open online and at the box offices at 6 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 27. These tickets are \$20 for the public and \$15 for alumni, faculty, staff, students and parents of current students.

Accommodations will be made for those that do not secure tickets. While the event will be held in Nelson Arena, there will be live video feeds of the talks broadcasted at Dana Auditorium and McCullough Social Space. Free seating will be provided at these alternate locations.

This will be the third visit to the College for the 14th Dalai Lama, who has previously visited the campus in 1984 and 1990. He returns this year at the request of the College, which he respects particularly for its environmental consciousness, among other reasons.

The preparations for this year's visit



FILE PHOTO

The Dalai Lama will give two speeches at the College on Oct. 12 and Oct. 13.

began in 2009, when Venerable Lama Tenzin Dhonden, personal emissary for peace to His Holiness the Dalai Lama visited the College to give a lecture. Chaplain Laurie Jordan said that during Lama Tenzin's talk "all the chairs were full, and people were seated on the floor around the edge of the room."

He explained that the popularity of this lecture led to discussion of a future visit from the Dalai Lama. Lama Tenzin offered to hand-carry a formal invitation back to the Dalai Lama and to guide the College through future arrangements if the invitation was accepted, says Jordan.

By August of 2010, a formal invitation was drafted, and the Dalai Lama accepted the College's invitation in the fall of 2011. The Dalai Lama will also visit Syracuse University, the College of William and Mary, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Brown University and the Lincoln Center in New York City while in the United States.

A steering committee has been working on logistical arrangements associated with the Dalai Lama's visit, Jordan reports. This committee has also worked with faculty and students to create supplementary events to the Dalai Lama's

visit. The organizers hope these events will spark conversations about global interconnectedness and the role of religion in the world, amongst other topics.

The Dalai Lama's message has changed with each visit to the College. This time, his message will echo the theme in his recent book, *Ethics for the Whole World: Beyond Religion*. This new message will be particularly pertinent in a world that is struggling with a global financial crisis and religious differences. As to what his exact insights will be, "the Dalai Lama usually does not speak from a text so it will be difficult to know for sure" says Jordan. Following his remarks, the Dalai Lama will answer selected questions that have been submitted in advance.

The arrival of His Holiness is a highly anticipated event at the College this fall as students and community members look forward to this unique occasion.

MCAB's WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MIDDLEBURY?

Activities Fair
Sign up for clubs on
Hepburn Road.
FRIDAY AT 4:30 P.M.

90s Dance ▶
Relive your younger
days on Proctor Terrace.
FRIDAY AT 10:30 P.M.

FUN.
Come have some on
Friday, Nov. 2 at 8 p.m.
in Nelson Arena



McCullough serves as pilot for other facilities

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signed to bring the College's facilities more closely in line with its non-discrimination statement — a policy that adheres to state and federal guidelines ensuring non-discrimination on the basis of gender identity and expression.

"We did not want to decrease the number of options for students, staff and faculty who might be uncomfortable with this project," said Timothy Spears, vice president for academic affairs. "We wanted to provide more choice and flexibility, without taking options away from other individuals."

While other buildings, including McCordell Bicentennial Hall and the Axinn Center at Starr Library, were considered for the pilot, McCullough was chosen both for its prominence in the lives of all students — a feature that administrators hope will prompt feedback from the college community — and because of the high concentration of restroom facilities in the building.

In Spears' role as one of the chief administrators of the project, his team worked with members of the President's Staff, the Community Council, the Faculty Council, the Space Committee and the Staff Council to weigh the many considerations of members of the community.

"We recognize that there are individuals with religious beliefs that will prohibit them from using the space," said Spears. "We also know that there are members of our community who are simply uncomfortable with the idea, but we believe that the change will provide more options for transgender students, as well as those members of our community who have young opposite gender children and those individuals with disabilities who have opposite gender caregivers."

The push toward the establishment of greater access to gender-neutral facilities is just one of the many initiatives that have grown out of a review of student life issues facing transgender stu-

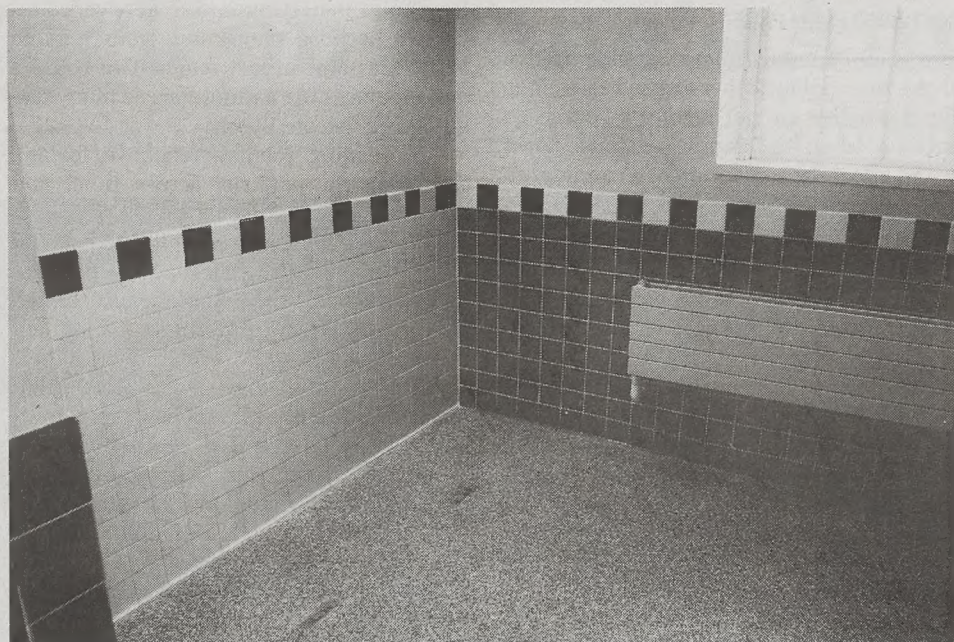


PHOTO BY JIAYI ZHU

Urinals have been removed from the once male-designated restroom in McCullough.

dents in 2010.

The report, completed by J.J. Boggs, associate dean of students for student activities and orientation, and Mary Hurlie, associate director for alumni career services, suggested work to be done with respect to the College's documentation procedures, housing arrangements and campus facilities.

With respect to facility conversion, phase one of the project resulted in the conversion of seven of the College's single-stall, single-gender facilities into gender-neutral spaces. The changes required little more than an alteration in signage outside the restrooms and were completed in 2011.

According to Sarah McGowen, special assistant to academic affairs and one of the staff members who played a prominent role in the changes, the first phase of construction was well-received by the college community — a reception that prompted the committee to consider the groundbreaking multi-stall pilot project.

"We've been really pleased with the way the College has moved on this," said

Tony Huynh '13, former MOQA president, and one of the students who consulted with Boggs and Hurlie in 2010.

"Sometimes it takes a long time to get projects moving, but the administration really worked on this issue," said Huynh. "I'm really pleased with the progress. They've shown that they really care about this issue."

According to Herrera, the McCullough renovations place the College at the forefront of gender inclusivity in colleges across the country.

Though other colleges have created gender-neutral restrooms from single-stall facilities and have implemented multi-stall gender-neutral facilities in many dorms, very few have committed to the conversion of multi-stall facilities in public spaces.

Spears explained that if the multi-stall pilot project is successful, administrators will consider the conversion of additional restrooms on campus.

OVERSEAS BRIEFING

BY CHARLOTTE O'HERRON '14

Madrid, Spain

After my first hectic, sleep-deprived week in Madrid, I have found that living like a *madrileño* will require a few more adaptations than I predicted. For starters, I arrived in Madrid fully aware of the city's reputation as a nightlife hotspot, but I still wondered if the locals would actually live up to their wild-by-night reputation. As expected, I have found that in Madrid, the days start later, the nights end later and most people rely on an afternoon *siesta* to recover. In fact, the shops close for almost three hours every afternoon for this very reason.

On almost every busy street, someone tries to hand me flyers promoting various bars, *discotecas* and late-night cafes. At two o'clock in the morning on a Saturday at Middlebury, students are meandering back to their dorms from ADP and The Grille. At two in the morning here, people are just finishing up their *tapas* and heading out to begin their night.

Most locals do not eat dinner until 10 or 11 p.m., and I have had to significantly shift my eating schedule back a few hours accordingly. Yesterday afternoon, after a long day of sight seeing and apartment hunting, I had the pleasure of trying *churros con chocolate*, a delectable treat that locals usually enjoy at dawn after a particularly late night or in the morning to begin their day. Enjoying that fried-dough pastry dipped in hot chocolate was one of the easier ways to experience the culture.

Even though the city is incredibly hip, evidence of the country's rich history is everywhere. The endless plazas, iconic palaces and huge museums tend to take you back in time, and the pristine gardens and parks scattered throughout the city offer respite from the bustle and noise. I have learned that on Sundays, people recover from the weekend by sunbathing and resting in *Parque Del Buen Retiro*, a huge park that features an artificial lake with a fleet of rentable rowboats.

One unexpected challenge that I have encountered in my efforts to embrace the Spanish lifestyle is simply avoiding English. The influence of American culture became especially apparent last Saturday night when a few of my friends and I attended Madrid's renowned seven-story club. In between several Avicii beats, the DJ played the 90's hit "Wonderwall" by Oasis, and almost everyone in the building knew the words. This would be expected at a Palmer late-night dance party, but not at a Spanish *discoteca*.

I have also discovered that even when I begin a conversation in Spanish with a stranger, he or she tends to offer me a conciliatory smile and then proceed to respond in English. I am assuming that locals either want to practice their English or are simply trying to communicate with me more efficiently, but I have learned that if I want anyone to trust my ability to speak Spanish, I need to heavily reduce my American accent and take a crack at the Madrid lisp.

Moreover, as expected from a language immersion experience, it is incredibly difficult to joke around, be sarcastic, make small talk and quote movies in Spanish — in other words, it is difficult to be myself. I've learned that a funny story generally loses its effect when I have to pause in the middle to deal with a dreaded subjunctive clause.

A few other students and I are trying to master the local slang by keeping a list of every new colloquial word or phrase we learn. So far, we have discovered the right ways to say "cool," "dude," "snob" and "do less"; we are still looking for an accurate translation of "sorry I'm not sorry." With time — and practice on my accent — I hope that I will stop feeling like a tourist and start seeing Madrid through the eyes of a resident. Although I am not sure how long I can last in this sleep-deprived condition, I already adore the laid-back, yet action-packed lifestyle of a *madrileño*.

Otters to perform in Burlington club

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Benay, is missing.

"I was playing croquet with our roommate, and these guys came up, one in a suit, and had a samurai sword and said they were going to go film something," said Benay.

After the video was made, all three signed off on the video before it was submitted to mtvU.

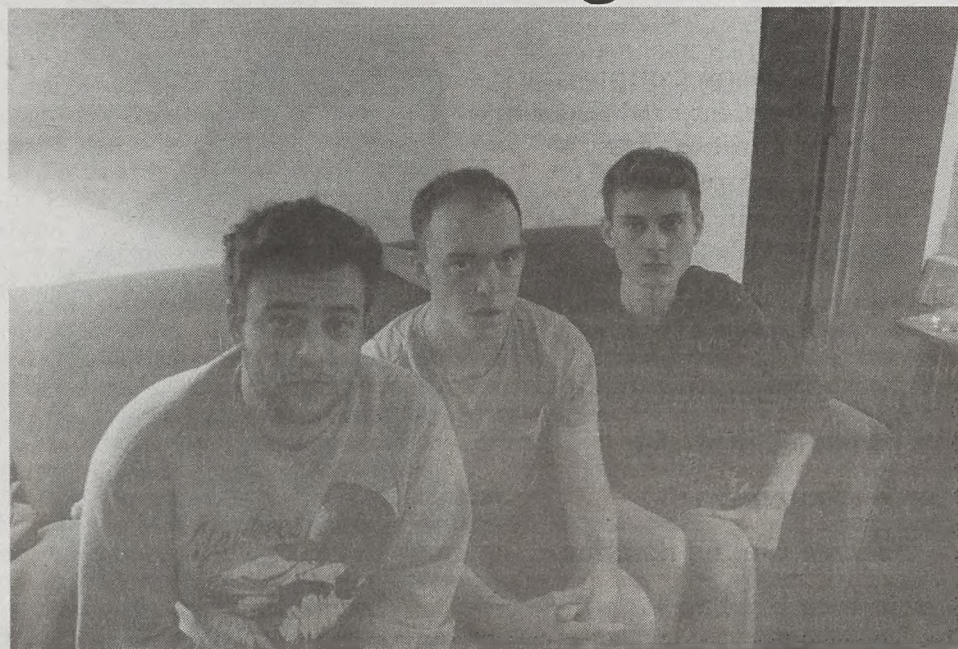
"Whenever we make a video, the test to see whether or not it's going to go to air, or at least be submitted, is if we all give it the thumbs up," said Dorris.

After accepting the group's first sketch, mtvU is now looking to license more of their videos.

The threesome hopes in future videos they will be able to bring in more people, such as Tom Califra '13.5. Califra is in Middlebrow, the College's other improv comedy group, and is good friends with Dorris, Benay and Orbison. All four live in Voter together this year.

"Tom is somebody that we love and that we're always with and it totally [makes] sense to pull him into this thing," said Orbison.

"Luckily there are a lot of funny people on this campus that we happen to know through improv in our own group and other groups," added Benay.



COURTESY OF BEN ORBISON '13, GREG DORRIS '13.5 AND ADAM BENAY '14

Ben Orbison '13, Greg Dorris '13.5 and Adam Benay '14 now have a deal to regularly produce videos for mtvU. The three met in the Otters and quickly became friends.

In addition to making videos for mtvU, Orbison and Benay spent much of the summer doing comedy acts at a club in Burlington.

Due to their efforts, the entire Otter Nonsense group has been asked to perform at the club on Sept. 30th, and may

have a monthly gig there.

"I'm excited because it's such a different venue," said Dorris. "It just is a much different feel and much more intimate than doing McCullough — being on stage, far away from 250 friends, the most supportive people."

WRITE. READ. GET INVOLVED. CONTACT US AT CAMPUS@MIDD

COLLEGE SHORTS

NEWS FROM ACROSS
THE NATION

COMPILED BY KELSEY COLLINS

First-year impostor arrested at Columbia University

A 26-year-old woman was arrested at Columbia University on Monday for trespassing after spending nearly two weeks posing as a first-year student at Columbia. The woman, Birva Patel, used the pseudonym Rhea Sen and attended several orientation events while masquerading as a first-year, despite having no official Columbia enrollment or affiliation with the school. She managed to get into first-year events, residence buildings and dining halls, claiming she had forgotten her ID card, before her lies and odd behavior aroused the suspicion of other students, who in turn contacted campus security. She was arrested on Sept. 10th in the University's library under charges of criminal trespassing.

— The Chronicle of Higher Education

125 students investigated for cheating at Harvard

Harvard University is investigating 125 students for plagiarism and unauthorized collaboration on a take-home final exam in a cheating scandal that Harvard's Dean of Undergraduate Education called "unprecedented in its scope and magnitude." The accused students comprise roughly half of an "Introduction to Congress" class in Harvard's government department, and the similarity of many of the answers on the course's open-book, open-note, take-home final exam caught the eye of one of the teaching assistants, who said many of the responses were "too close for comfort."

The accused students will appear individually before Harvard's administrative board and stand to be suspended for up to a year if found guilty. The scandal has raised discussion about academic integrity as well as concern about how levels of stress among college students may lead some to take unethical shortcuts. However, many of the accused students maintain that they did not do anything wrong, claiming that the guidelines for the exam were not clear in prohibiting collaboration, and some are said to be considering taking legal action against the college depending on the outcome of the case.

— The New York Times

UNC Chapel Hill student found dead in her apartment

A 19-year-old UNC Chapel Hill student was found dead in her apartment Friday in what police are now investigating as a homicide. The Chapel Hill police do not believe the killing was random, but no arrests or suspects have been announced yet in the case. Faith Hedgepeth, only three weeks away from her 20th birthday, was said to be highly active on the UNC campus and is being mourned by all members of the community. Students and community members plan to hold a candlelight vigil for her later in the week. The investigation is ongoing.

— The Huffington Post

Worries arise over new evaluation policy

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faculty and administrators were supportive of the new policy, others raised questions about whether or not having a course go unrecorded in the course response form would affect the evaluation of a candidate's teaching.

Ellis Professor of English and Liberal Arts John Bertolini questions the impact this policy will have on the process of professors gaining tenure.

"Student evaluations are a key element in the decision to grant or not grant tenure," wrote Bertolini in an email. "[I do not understand] how reading, in effect, a censored version of student evaluations helps the decision."

Byerly does not think that the evaluation of a professor's teaching will be diminished.

"The Promotions Committee and the

Reappointments Committee were very supportive because they know from reading many files that in fact one or two courses don't make as big a difference as many faculty think," wrote Byerly.

"In reading [course response forms], they look for patterns across time, and across different course types."

C. A. Dana Professor of English and American Literatures David Price feels indifferent toward the policy change, though he recognizes the importance of student evaluations.

"It's an interesting assumption [that retaining student evaluations from administration would increase creativity in the classroom]," said Price. "I don't even think about student evaluations. Each class has different students with a different chemistry, and that's what I focus on."

Byerly said that the recent approval of Pass/D/Fail courses for students, which

allow students to take a course and pass, receive a D or fail, influenced her thinking in regards to evaluations of professors' performances.

"It seemed to me that if we were asking faculty to trust that students would work hard in a class even when they are not receiving a letter grade, we should trust faculty to do their best as teachers even when they are not being formally evaluated," wrote Byerly.

Students seem supportive of the change for professors as well.

"It is a fantastic idea," said Chelsea Edgar '13. "I think everyone in the college community stands to benefit when professors feel empowered to get more creative with their syllabi."

The policy will be effective immediately, allowing professors to teach courses without student course evaluations sent to administration this fall semester.

New green website builds community

By Isabelle Dietz

"The Green Poodle," a website created this summer, seeks to improve coordination amongst green-focused student organizations on campus.

The site contains a running blog with current events, a page with contact information for each organization and a calendar that will sync to the organizations' individual meeting schedules. As the site gains followers, organizers Jake Nonweiler '14 and Hannah Bristol '14.5 are hopeful that group leaders, alumni and faculty will also post information about green-focused internships, jobs and conferences.

"I want the GP to be a resource that people recognize," said Nonweiler. "I would love for people to think of the GP as the resource for all environmental information on campus."

Last February, Bristol and Nonweiler became aware of a lack of cooperation amongst student clubs and organizations on campus. Seeking to remedy this problem, the two established The Green Poodle — deciding upon a name that combined the moniker of two of the campus' servers (Portal and Moodle) and drawing inspiration from an image of a green Poodle that they had seen online.

Over the summer, the two students asked environmental groups to join the website, and received very positive responses. To date the site contains bios and contact information for 12 student organizations.

Stu Fram '13, co-leader of Eat Real — an organization that promotes food sustainability on campus — will serve as his organization's liaison with The Green Poodle.

Fram is excited about the potential for collaboration amongst student groups.

"Without generating environmental relevancy to ostensibly disparate areas, I think we're just going to keep spinning our hybrid-powered wheels," Fram said.

Fram hopes that The Green Poodle will serve as more than a mere directory, and will encourage broader discussions about environmental sustainability on campus.

Bristol and Nonweiler are hopeful that the site will gain traction with students in September, allowing incoming students to find the groups that match up best with their interests.

"We hope that this will allow us to continue pushing Middlebury forward on environmental issues and to be more effective in various projects through collaboration," said Bristol.

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Looking Back on Irene's Anniversary

A strong initial response on the long road to recovery



Despite strong emergency response, many Vermonters are still struggling to get back to normal.

COURTESY: VERMONT AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION

By Isaac Baker

On Aug. 28, 2011, Tropical Storm Irene tore through Vermont, destroying bridges, washing out roads, taking houses and even six human lives with record-breaking winds and floods.

Now, one year into recovery, communities all across Vermont have come together to remember the flood, to mourn all that was lost and to celebrate the spirit of generosity and resilience that marked the weeks following Irene's devastation.

Vermont State Governor Peter Shumlin spent the four days leading up to Irene's anniversary travelling to some of the hardest-hit towns in the state to congratulate communities on their heroic recovery efforts.

"Vermonters have a lot to celebrate on the one-year anniversary of Irene," said Shumlin in a press release concerning his visits. "But we also need to recognize that many people and communities still need our help."

Vermont's Irene Recovery Officer Sue Minter echoed these sentiments.

"Number one, we've come a long way," said Minter. "We've been able to accomplish so much because of this 'Vermont Strong' spirit ... The other part is that we do have a long road ahead. While for the vast majority, things are starting to get back to normal, there are still a large number of people in very difficult situations."

Here in Middlebury, it is easy to miss these struggles that continue in other parts of the state. Horticulturist Tim Parsons wrote in a blog post that the Middlebury Campus Weather Station reported just 3.21 inches of rain during the tropical storm — a significant amount, but much less than the four to eight inches reported by the National Weather Service in some of the harder-hit communities.

Middlebury farmer Spencer Blackwell

recalled the rainfall during Irene.

"That's a lot of rain to get all at once and nothing that we would welcome, but it was not catastrophic by any means," said Blackwell.

Other towns were not so lucky.

Greg Joly, longtime resident of Jamaica, Vt. and volunteer organizer in the aftermath of the storm, told a very different story from Blackwell.

According to Joly, "Jamaica was the worst hit in the state."

"We couldn't drive here into our valley for almost four weeks," he said. "Our whole valley was washed out."

While Joly's home did not see any damage due to its high elevation, many in his community experienced severe flooding and he wasted no time in getting out to assess the damage and help those in need.

Minter also emphasized this selflessness that brought communities together to share the support and resources they had.

"Literally people fed one another; they had homeschooling on the [Pittsfield Vt.] town green. It was really amazing," said Minter, referring to the overwhelming neighborly support given in Pittsfield in the wake of the storm. "The way in which people came together — I don't think it happens everywhere. I think we have a special place right here."

When asked what pressing issues remain in Jamaica a year after the storm, Joly replied, "The big one that people are waiting on is the remediation buyouts."

These buyouts are made by the state and by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA): 75 percent of the home value comes from FEMA (under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program) while 25 percent comes from the state government.

The program kicks in when a town and a homeowner agree to a buyout, based on the assumption that the property is at risk

of future flooding and is thus a potential cost to taxpayers down the line. The homeowner applies to the state, the state reviews the application, and if it's acceptable, the state passes the application along to FEMA where it is reviewed again. If FEMA approves, the homeowner is reimbursed for the value of the home prior to the flood.

While it sounds promising, the turnaround is often lengthy.

"In February the state reviewed all of these applications," said Minter. "In March they sent them to the federal government."

Of the 108 applications filed by the state in March, only 17 have been accepted and processed by FEMA to date, leaving 91 families not just waiting on money a year after the storm, but actually waiting for the decision on whether or not they will be awarded the money at all.

In the interim, many of them are paying taxes and even paying off mortgages on these homes that now exist only on paper.

Of these 91 washed-away homes, four of them had been located by the river in Jamaica where, as far as Joly could see, the owners are running out of patience.

"Those folks with the four houses were told that the money would come in March, then they were told June, then August, then September and now maybe Christmas," said Joly.

"It has been extremely challenging and frustrating for many Vermonters," said Minter, "to be waiting over a year to know whether or not they're going to get money from the federal government to help buy them out and move on with their lives."

According to a news release from FEMA concerning buyouts made in other parts of the country, this process could

take up to two years.

When Shumlin made his way to Jamaica to connect with some of its nearly 1,000 residents on the anniversary of Irene, only one person was there to greet him.

As Joly put it, "people felt like the governor was coming on a meet and greet tour during an election season."

"We didn't need to be told we were 'Vermont strong,'" he said. We needed help."

Outside of Jamaica, many other towns across Vermont also still have families — particularly low-income families — living in temporary housing, waiting for money to come through. According to Minter, "there were 7,000 Vermonters who applied for funding from FEMA ... now we know of at least 700 of [them] still have significant needs. We know of people living literally in tents [while] building their houses."

When asked how long it will be until people can expect to see Vermont fully put back together, Minter sighed.

"If I look at infrastructure, [I think we'll be able to say] in another year or definitely in two years [that] we've accomplished recovery from Irene. But when I'm dealing with peoples' lives and how they're going to get back to normal when they've lost everything, or farms, or small local economies ... those are much longer term effects. We're just going to have to keep working and thinking."

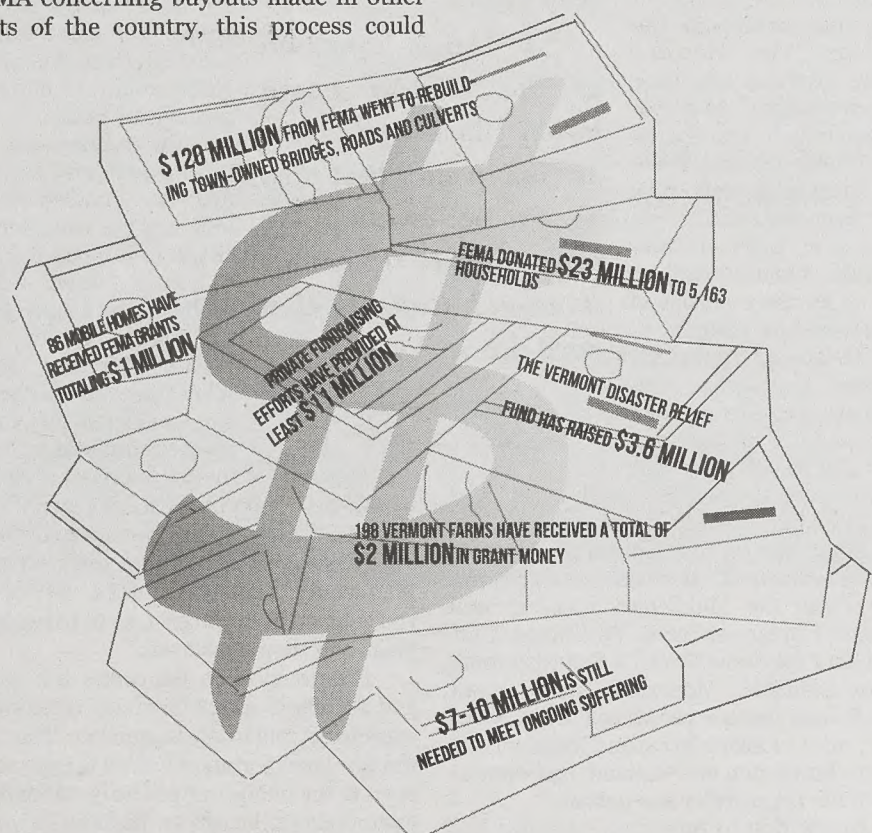
In the meantime, she added, "we need volunteers, and students are the best kind."

SerVermont is the organization putting volunteers to work. More information is located at www.vermontstrong.vt.gov.



Removal of the Bridge on Route 30 in Jamaica, Vt.

COURTESY: VERMONT AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION



Wind energy debate explodes across Vermont

By Conor Grant

On Aug. 6, six demonstrators were arrested in Lowell, Vt. at the site of the Kingdom Community Wind Project. These six demonstrators, members of a fifty-person protest group assembled to voice their disapproval of commercial wind-farming, bringing the total number of arrests made at this site to 15. This project, an alternative energy generation venture in the process of constructing 21 wind turbines along a three-mile section of ridgeline along Lowell Mountain, has been the site of a half dozen large protests and demonstrations in the last two years.

The Kingdom Community Wind project is not unique in Vermont; similar wind farms adorn the skylines of Sheffield, Georgia, Milton and even Middlebury. The field adjacent to the College's recycling center is home to a 10-kilowatt turbine that is a feature of the College's carbon neutrality initiative.

Opinions about the wind turbine vary on campus.

Steven Zatarain '15 feels that Middlebury's wind turbine is "a façade" that "gives tour guides something to talk about."

Director of Arts, Professor of History of Art and Architecture and Associate Curator of Ancient Art Pieter Broucke is "really in favor" of wind turbines, which he believes can flourish in Vermont's "delicate and venerable landscape."

Across the state, wind farms like the Kingdom Community Wind Project are being sharply criticized for having what opponents claim to be a disruptive impact on the landscape. The situation in Lowell has developed into a particularly contested dispute.

The saga unfolding in courtrooms and on mountaintops across Orleans County began in the spring of 2010 when Green Mountain Power, the Vermont Electric Cooperative and the Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc. submitted a proposal to build a wind farm on the Lowell Mountain Ridgeline and install 16.9 miles of transmission equipment in the towns of Lowell, Westfield and Jay. On May 31 of the following year, the Public Service Board of the state of Vermont approved "either 20 or 21 wind turbines and associated transmis-

sion and interconnection facilities ... (to) be sited along the Lowell Mountain ridgeline in Lowell, Vt."

The Public Service Board's decision ignited a contentious debate over the merits of wind energy. So far, construction has been fraught with setbacks due to the many protests that have been staged within the last year: two Sterling College students were arrested while protesting on Nov. 12, six demonstrators were arrested for trespassing on Dec. 5th, two arrests were made and state troopers were called when a group of 80 to 150 protestors blockaded Vermont Route 100 to delay the arrival of turbine components in July and six of about thirty demonstrators were arrested at a protest staged on Aug. 6. These disruptive incidents have precipitated a statewide dialogue about the benefits and drawbacks of wind energy.

Proponents of wind energy point to the dual economic and environmental value of wind farms as the primary reason why wind turbines should be installed across the state. These advocates believe that wind farms will economically benefit the state by creating jobs, tax revenue and a stable long-term source of inexpensive energy.

"It's a very good symbol of the promise of renewables," said Middlebury's Director of Environmental Studies and Professor of Economics Jonathan Isham. Isham believes that "taking advantage of new technologies and economies of scale" will enable wind energy to be a financially viable option for the state of Vermont. Isham also pointed to other examples of successful wind energy across the country as signs that wind energy can find a niche in Vermont.

"The rise of wind power in Iowa is a sign of the promise of wind," said Isham.

Green Mountain Power Corporate Spokesperson Dorothy Schnure compared the development of wind energy infrastructure to home ownership in what she called a "rent vs. own model." She said that having wind energy facilities in Vermont will provide long-term benefits despite initial financial hurdles because future contract renewals will be avoided by keeping production local.

Supporters of the wind energy movement in Vermont also think that wind farms are an appropriately "green" approach to energy creation. Advocates believe that

wind energy is an environmentally responsible alternative form of energy generation that aligns with Sustainably Priced Energy Enterprise Development (SPEED), a piece of legislation passed in 2005 that requires 10 percent of Vermont's energy load to be provided by new sources of renewable energy.

According to Schnure, "the Vermont legislature has made it clear that [they] want a ... higher proportion of our energy mix to come from renewable energy sources."

The Kingdom Community Wind project emphasizes the project's "low potential for significant environmental impact" and says the completed wind farm will "reduce the need to import power and will reduce pollution in (the) wider community."

Schnure went on to say that the project represents a form of renewable energy generation that is "low cost, low carbon and very reliable."

Critics of the development of large-scale wind-energy generation systems believe that the host of deleterious effects of wind turbines with respect to aesthetics, environment, noise levels and cost efficiency make wind energy a poor choice for the state of Vermont. Environmentalists are furious that the turbines and their associated transmission and interconnection facilities destroy dozens of miles of natural landscapes without significantly reducing emissions.

Lisa Linowes, executive director of Vermont's Industrial Wind Action (IWA) group, says that the label "renewable" often encourages members of the public to accept an environmentally degrading source of energy that is "extraordinarily expensive relative to other forms of generation."

"How could anyone find a problem with wind energy?" asked Linowes. "Out of the gate a lot of people just accept that renewables are wonderful [even though] there is no way in Vermont or in New England that wind energy [could] pay ... for itself."

Citizens living in Lowell, Westfield, Jay and neighboring towns decry the turbines for their obtrusive presence, and, as the multitude of arrests suggest, they are not afraid to stand up for their opinions. Linowes believes this is evidence that the anti-wind protestors will not rest until their

voices are heard.

"It's a big step for a doctor in an emergency room, [...] one of the people that got arrested — to stand up and to be so outraged about the Lowell mountain projects that he stands up and he would allow himself to get arrested," said Linowes. "People don't do that."

The issue remains divisive, however, and protests continue. Although opponents continue to clamor for an end to the construction of Kingdom Community Wind, Schnure insists that the 21 turbines will soon be powering 24,000 Vermont homes. According to recent estimates, the Kingdom Community Wind project will be completed by December. While construction crews race to erect the final few turbines on the ridge of Lowell Mountain, environmentalists, economists and engineers across the state of Vermont are sure to be investigating other alternative energy sources.

"In the end, Vermont should aspire to have a portfolio of renewables, including wind and solar," said Isham. Vermonters seem to agree that investment in multiple renewable energy sources is positive, and the wind energy debate seems to be a catalyst for discussion of these new sources of renewable energy.

"Wind can be effective," agreed Visiting Lecturer in Architecture Andrea Kerz-Murray, the lead faculty advisor for the Middlebury Solar Decathlon Team, "but [it] is not enough on its own [...] The most effective approach to clean energy in a place like Vermont has to be a varied one."

"Just like investments, you don't want to put all your money in one stock. It's the same with energy," said Schnure. "There is a lot of value in having a diverse mix."

The increased interest in the environmental and economic landscape of tomorrow that has resulted from the wind energy debate will benefit all residents of Vermont.

"The high profile debate and the actions that have been taken will drive people to look deeper, to peel away some of the layers to that onion," said Linowes.

With both corporate entities like Green Mountain Power and advocacy groups like the IWA both striving to develop a varied energy portfolio for the state, the future of sustainable energy in Vermont remains bright.

College donates for local public transit

By Leah Lavigne

Many students use Addison County Transit Resources (ACTR) as an inexpensive means of public transportation, and a recent grant from the College will expand the benefits that accompany this resource. The \$100,000 grant, awarded last June, is being applied to a new Community Transportation Center on Creek Road.

The College and ACTR have been partners for over a decade; together, they provide students with access to locations outside of the Middlebury campus.

"A large portion of the student population does not have access to cars that they need to get around. We want to serve the couple thousand students that need access," said Jim Moulton, executive director of ACTR.

Students can take advantage of regularly scheduled ACTR bus services that run throughout the Middlebury area, as well as semi-regular service to Burlington, Rutland, and the Snow Bowl. A Saturday route is also available. Moulton is excited about the changes the new center will bring. "Over time, we are looking to expand [regular] service to Burlington and Rutland, and eventually to the 125 corridor and upstate."

In addition to providing expanded bus routes for the community, the new center is

more cost effective. According to Moulton, "We will be doing all of the bus maintenance ourselves thanks to a new maintenance center. Instead of sending the buses out to be serviced in other locations like Rutland, we can do all of the work in house." The center will also focus on green energy and sustainability to maximize cost effectiveness.

The center also features a park and ride, the first in Middlebury, as well as a bus wash service.

"Right now we have no way to keep the vehicles clean, so having a facility keeps the vehicles on the road longer," Moulton states. All of these changes lead to a more efficient bus service for the community.

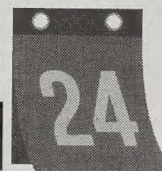
Members of the community are thrilled by this new opportunity to venture off campus. "I don't have a car," says John Louie '15, "and there are a lot of things you can't get in Middlebury. [Extended ACTR service lets you get food in Burlington, go to Lake Champlain, and shop downtown.]"

Construction on the center has begun, and an official groundbreaking ceremony is expected in mid to late September. The Community Transportation Center is expected to open to the public in April 2013. More information about the center, including a virtual tour, can be found at <http://actr-vt.org/>

"A large portion of the student population does not have access to cars that they need to get around. We want to serve the couple thousand students that need access."

JIM MOULTON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ACTR

LOCAL LOWDOWN



Middlebury Fabulous Flea Market

The fifth annual More than 25 antiques dealers will be in attendance. Collectibles, rugs, furniture and more! The event will benefit the Town Hall Theater. Admission is free. For more information call 802-382-9222.

SEPT. 15, 9 A.M. - 2 P.M.

Bocce Tournament in Middlebury

The annual "Let the Good Times Roll" is a fundraiser tournament for the Counseling Service of Addison County. Registration includes a delicious BBQ lunch, T-shirts and the chance to win prizes. For information call 802-388-4021

SEPT. 14, 9:30 A.M. - 1 P.M.

Tour de Farms

The fifth installment of this popular bike event features three bike routes and one walking route through the scenic Champlain Valley. Sample the delicious food at farms along the way. There will also be children's books, a Storywalk and a video contest. Advance registration through Sep. 10 is \$28 for adults and \$13 for kids advance, or \$50/\$20 at the door.

SEPT. 16, 10:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

Addison County Benefit Pull

The seventh annual truck and tractor pull will test the strength of Vermont in New Haven on Friday! This fundraiser is being held to benefit Vermont families in need. The Lions Club will be selling a delicious assortment of food and beverages. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids. For more information call 802-349-5776 or email addisonbenefitpull@yahoo.com.

SEPT. 14, 6 P.M. - 9 P.M.

"The Very Dickens" on Stage in Bristol

Actor Neil Flint Worden is a one-man star of this popular public reading of Charles Dickens. Come by to watch the excellent acting and enjoy tea and English cakes at intermission. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children under the age of 12. For information or to make a reservation call 802-453-3188 or email walkover@me.com.

SEPT. 15, 7:30 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.

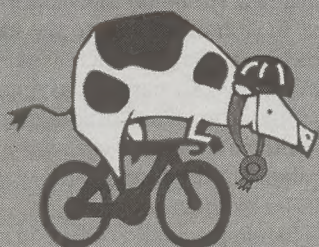
Apple Fest in Shoreham

The Shoreham town common and gazebo will be your one-stop for all things apple-related on Sunday, September, 16! Come by to hear live music from the bands Extra Stout and Split Tongue crew, sample farmer's market fare, check out the apple displays and sample apples! Admission is free, and the event benefits Friends of the Platt Memorial Library. Call 802-897-2330 for info.

SEP. 16, 12:30 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Le Tour de Farms

bicycle tour of Addison County farms



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OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

Take back your summer

Upon returning to campus every September, students are confronted time and again with some form of the question, "what did you do this summer?" And, after hearing countless

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of *The Middlebury Campus* as decided by the editorial board.

ship?

Interning has many obvious benefits — an internship provides an opportunity

responses, a general theme begins to emerge: students don't lose their intensity over the summer. Why else would the most commonly heard answer involve some form of internship?

to gauge your interest in a certain field, introduces you to office life, builds useful connections and gives you some insight into the inner workings of certain jobs or businesses.

Though internships can certainly be valuable, they shouldn't be seen as an absolute necessity in order to have a worthwhile summer experience. We're not suggesting you do nothing with your summers — sitting by the pool every day would definitely get old — but we are saying that there is a world of opportunities outside of the realm of internships, whether it be through holding a paid summer job or going on a real-world adventure.

All too often, students can be heard explaining that they "just waitressed" or "just worked in a store" or "just lifeguarded" during the summer. These students should not sell themselves short. These jobs provide certain life experiences that cannot always be gained by having a "name-brand" internship. A waiter or cashier must learn how to deal with disgruntled customers,

while lifeguarding, for example, necessitates the ability to deal with the unexpected. In addition, a paying job promotes increased financial responsibility and independence. The list of benefits goes on.

It's important to know what it's like to be at the bottom of the heap. At some point in our lives, we will be confronted with grunt work or find ourselves in a position in which we aren't continuously praised for our intelligence or our ability to write a persuasive analytical essay. For those of us who have never borne the brunt of an irate customer's anger or had the typical intern task of making daily Starbucks and mailroom runs, the almost inevitable experience of completing menial tasks is humbling and educational in reminding us to work toward our greater goals.

Educational real-world experiences, however, are not solely bound up in work. Summer break is a luxury most of us won't be able to enjoy after college and we should seize the chance now to do whatever we find meaningful — which may be

interning, working or studying, but might also consist of rafting, cooking or spending time with family. We are given a golden opportunity to break from traditional academic life and these experiences can only serve to revitalize and rejuvenate our enthusiasm for the future.

Yet while our optimism is all well and good, unpaid work and unfunded exploration are costly endeavors. It is encouraging, therefore, to learn that the College has made strides in the past year to expand these opportunities for students. Since last summer, the Center for Education in Action, thanks to the "MiddAction Fund" campaign, increased internship funding by 180 percent, giving out a total of \$350,000. This funding ensures that unpaid internships are no longer only available to the privileged few who are not limited by financial needs.

Students should reflect on summer experiences with an open mind. Without the pressures and the price tag, it's up to you to decide what's left.

The Middlebury Campus

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Happening on Campus

Welcome home, Middlebury.

"Home" has a different definition for all of us. For the first-years who only just pushed over-eager parents out the doorway of a new dorm room, the idea of calling this place home may seem a little far-fetched. For the seniors who feel like they've been here forever, and to the faculty and staff who actually have, this welcome probably feels a little more familiar, and this place a little more like home.

This summer, I read a definition of home that describes it as "the centre where the three or four / things / that happen

NOTES FROM THE DESK

Kathryn DeSutter '13

is the editor-in-chief from

Mooresville, N.C.

fit this definition.

I've been away from my Middlebury home for a year now. I spent five months in Argentina and seven months in China, and quite a few things happened to me in those places. I have a home in Mooresville, North Carolina, where I spent the first eighteen years of my life. Then there are the scattered homes in between: physical, geographical places and also things that happened that share no connection with their location.

As the new editor-in-chief of the *Campus*, I'm particularly drawn to this definition of home because it rests at the very core of what we do as journalists. We tell you what has happened; we define your home.

In the world of today's journalism, however, simply telling

to a man do happen." It seems the author had in mind one specific center, a single place that a person could point to and call his or her own. I have a feeling, however, that most of us can cite quite a few places that would

**We'll tell you
what has happened,
but we'll also tell
you why it matters.**

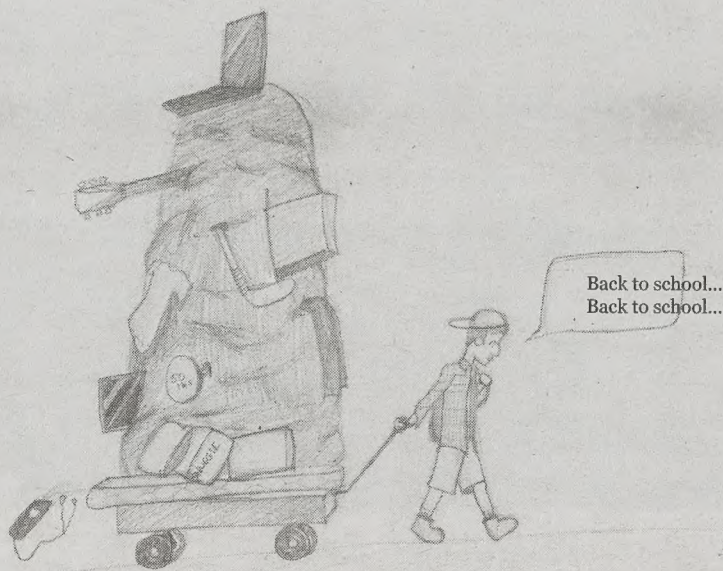
you what has happened is more often than not completely useless. Print journalism is too slow, and as a weekly print publication, the *Campus* could be considered a relic — might as well get your news from a carrier pigeon.

Naturally, I can't say I agree with this statement. I plan to build upon our history and provide you with content that uses our time frame to our advantage. Our team of reporters will work to more thoroughly investigate and explain your home. We'll tell you what has happened, but we'll also tell you why it matters.

Our role as journalists extends far beyond the pages we write; we assign significance to the events we cover. Journalists are truth-seekers, historians, curators and, perhaps most importantly, your classmates. Journalists rely on the community around us for the source of content and also for readership — a full-circle process that implies an absolute necessity for feedback. We hope to hear from you either through a letter to the editor, a quote for an article or a dining hall conversation. Let us know how we can better define your home.

This fall, we will be launching a new website at middleburycampus.com. In addition to all of our print content, the new website will feature blogs, extra columns, podcasts, videos and updates on breaking news. We hope this space becomes a center that you can access when things happen. We'll be strengthening our presence in social media as well, through both Twitter and Facebook accounts. Like us and tweet at us!

Most importantly, we look to you, the Middlebury community, to create and define this center. You're home — now make it happen.



BY DYLAN LEVY

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2012 and the cult of the individual

The weird part about writing my column this fall is that I will never see it in print. I am spending the semester in Australia, but I decided at the end of last year to continue writing this column, assuming — incorrectly — that the upcoming election would be both interesting and centered around important issues. So, welcome to election season 2012: the race to the bottom. If 2008 were a baseball game in which the teams tried for home runs, this time around it is all about clearing the benches and charging the mound.

Which is worse for America? A campaign based almost entirely upon falsehoods and platitudes, or one that focuses

APPLY LIBERALLY

Zach Dallmeyer-Drennen '13.5 is from Canadaigua, N.Y.

on the small, petty, petulant problems it has with the opponent? The latter is more depressing, but as we struggle to our knees and begin to look for answers to the questions of the 21st century, both are dangerous. Together, they add up to a depressing election between two men so walled off from the world that they make Don Draper look like the Kardashians by comparison.

Presidential elections in the modern era have developed a distinct pattern: candidate runs on lofty ideals and promises to change the way Washington works. Then, four years later, the less shiny incumbent desperately tries to retain his grip on power with a barrage of mud slinging that brings out the base and depresses the independent-minded voters who just might cross party lines. We cannot afford another such election cycle.

Today, we view the history of America as the history of great leaders. The 2008 election of Barack Obama was more about the man, his story and his speaking abilities than about any real issues. America is crying out for a knight to appear and lead us out of the wilderness. But this is merely a mistake of our modern cult of the individual. America has always been at its greatest when our leaders were secondary to their ideas; not Thomas Jefferson but independence; not Abraham Lincoln but a house united; not Franklin D. Roosevelt but a new deal for a nation tired of the old one. FDR actually went to great lengths to hide his personal story and the crippling illness that came with it. There is a reason why the United States bloomed under quiet leaders like Eisen-

hower — a man who understood that duty leaves little room for ego. In our system, no great businessman or cunning politician is enough to bridge the divide. Instead, history shows that it is determined by groups of people who are willing to form coalitions that solve the problems at hand; the Constitution was not written by one man, nor were the Federalist Papers. Lincoln would never have restored the Union without the help of Ulysses Grant. FDR could not have brought change without the help of the shift in public opinion.

Now is not the time for petty issues and character attacks. It is the time for consensus and compromise. You don't redo the kitchen cabinets when the house is on fire. If we cannot set aside minor quibbles like who put a dog on the roof of his car, the marathon time of a vice presidential candidate and the tax rates that certain candidates paid, or move beyond *fait accompli* like the Affordable Care Act, we will slide into the league of fallen empires. The United States will become one of those giants of history that children will learn about, confounded by the fact that the speed of its rise was matched only by the depth of its decay.

Here is the state of our union going into the fall election: not only is our house divided against itself, but it is also crumbling and close to default. Our middle class has become endangered. Our infrastructure is the shame of the developed world. Our schools are stuck in the industrial era. Our seas are rising and our soldiers are falling. Yet nobody wants to pay to fix any of these problems or to actually discuss tangible solutions. We expect first-world infrastructure, a level of entitlement support developed when lives were nearly two decades shorter and the most powerful military in the history of the world while paying little of our unprecedented wealth.

Rarely before has the magnitude of our challenge been so poorly matched by the level of our political discourse. President Obama earned my vote when he signed the healthcare act that will forever bear his name — a historic achievement that must be defended from the scourge of the Tea Party, even at the cost of another four years of gridlock. The recent Democratic National Convention did a fantastic job of reminding us of the stakes. But despite all the speeches and attacks, neither candidate has convinced me that he will help deliver the solutions the United States so badly needs.

WHY 'HANG IN THERE' ISN'T ENOUGH

Like those Hollywood sequels that never live up to the originals, President Obama's re-election vision outlined at the Democratic National Convention appeared flat compared to the optimistic, inspiring and defined rallying cries of 2008. The goals of last week's speeches were, firstly, to unite Democrats in support of Obama's re-election, and, secondly, to persuade independent voters that four more years of Democratic leadership would provide more benefits than the Romney/Ryan future glimpsed in Tampa. But while the DNC's speakers certainly provided a laundry list of Obama's accomplishments and ample testimony to his character, they failed to address unmet promises, define new goals and outline an economic plan for a second Obama term.

Speaking about the economic revival in 2009, Obama told Matt Lauer, "If I don't have this done in three years, then [this is] going to be a one-term proposition." For this reason, President Clinton's statement that "nobody" could have righted the economy in four years feels more like damage control than inspiration to vote. In fact, rather than rousing audiences at the convention, Clinton and other speakers seemed to reel in the optimism of 2008, emphasizing how much work the Obama regime has left to complete and replacing the "yes we can!" slogan with this new "no one could have saved us" mentality. Is this supposed to encourage voters?

Obama's failed promises were neither ignored nor explained during last week's convention, and the goals outlined in Obama's final speech were all recycled and adapted from 2008 and provided voters with nothing but already broken promises. Obama's 'new' goals include halving oil imports, working to develop one million green energy jobs, empowering our education system and cutting four trillion from the national budget deficit. Sound familiar? At the DNC in 2008, Obama pledged to end Middle East oil imports by 2018, create five million green energy jobs, revamp our education system and dramatically reduce the deficit. None of these promises have been kept. For instance, Al Gore has criticized Obama's lack of action on green energy, a field in which the Obama administration created a couple hundred thousand jobs of the five million promised — so why would Democrats believe him today? If Obama now wants us to understand that nobody could have met these goals in our economic and political climate, then why did he promise to

achieve them? If he lacks the foresight to understand the difficulty of fulfilling his goals, then he lacks the foresight necessary to properly lead this nation.

The lack of new ideas in Obama's re-election campaign and his dependence on unfulfilled promises could be excused if he provided evidence that the next four years would be different — that he has a new plan on how to create jobs, lower the budget deficit and help the environment. But while last week's speeches contained everything from powerful liberal rhetoric to tearful accounts of Obama's wonderfulness, they lacked clear blueprints for the future. We heard no plan on how Obama will fulfill the promises he could not meet during this term. We heard no plan on how Obama will restore American economic strength. We heard no plan on how the next four years will be anything other than a continuation of the last four. Struggling Americans want to understand how Obama intends to help them, and last week provided them with no answers.

Bill Clinton's declaration that "we are better off today" than four years ago simply does not have numbers to back it. Unemployment levels have hovered above eight percent for 43 months, more and more

Americans are quitting the job hunt and extremely slow private-sector job growth — slowing to less than 100,000 new jobs last month — has not helped to dramatically change America's employment woes. Obama's promises, both economic and social, have not all been met. His economic record has only shown that he can sustain high levels of unemployment. And the majority of Americans feel that their lives are "no better" than in 2008.

Obama wants struggling Americans to know that his administration is on the right track, that everyone is better off now than in 2008 and that his benefits will reach them eventually. "Eventually" might be a very long time if last month's 8.1 percent unemployment and 96,000 new jobs are to be viewed as successes. But hang in there, Obama tells us. Be patient.

Voters need something to be patient for, and Obama's failed promises, lack of new ideas and seemingly absent economic plan no longer inspire hope.

THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

Ben Kinney '15 is from Seattle, Wash.

Still Here

Just a few months ago, when I was still a senior at Middlebury, I felt pretty cool. I had a really loud best friend. Sophomores re-tweeted me a lot. I ate with intimidating people in Atwater, and we pretty much monopolized off-campus parties (at least for anyone who'd heard the word "Alpenglow"). I even knew every bro/fro at the bar and all the people living on Shannon St.

But now, as a "febbed reg," I'm currently in my last semester at Middlebury while all my friends appear to be (at least on Instagram) at an outdoor music festival in a wine bar during a Soul-Cycle class, which has a great view of the Brooklyn Bridge. I'm still here in Middlebury — feeling kind of intimidated.

READER OP-ED

Maya Goldberg-Safir '12.5 is from Oakland, Calif.

Here's a real scenario: A girl from my freshman hall, who has just started working full-time in some nebulous administrative office on campus, stops me on College St.

"Hey!" she says — because no matter how little we've talked in the last few years, there's something respectably old school about greeting each other now — "What are you doing at Middlebury?"

Loudly, I tell her: "Oh, I febbed myself," and hope that everyone in a half-mile radius hears. It is my attempt to regain confidence amongst the sea of 2013 darters I've been stumbling into.

Get this: in the fall of 2008, you had never been a

student at Middlebury; I, on the other hand, was (still a virgin and really afraid to poop in my dorm) already a college freshman, suckas!

There are only about 10 of us "reg-to-feb" seniors still roaming campus, and I saw half of them last night at the bar, which I think might be telling. When the 10 of us (a.k.a. those students you see around campus and whisper to your friend, "why is that kid still here?") first showed up for freshman orientation, things were a little different — like, oh, let's see, THERE WAS NO FINANCIAL CRISIS. For two long, glorious months. Well, maybe one and a half.

Here are 10 things you might not know happened during the B.F.C. (Before Financial Crisis) era:

1. FIC was a dining hall. It was a like an underground cavern/ski lodge turned poorly-lit "canteen."
2. The Bunker was totally a thing, and not just for two minutes a semester before someone smashed a window.
3. My best friend was "straight."
4. Pesto didn't have any parsley in it. IT WAS REAL PESTO.
5. We had a hoedown AND a faculty band, which made for even more super awkward freshmen orientation dance moves.
6. Vincent Jones IV '12 was an undiscovered hero.
7. My first boyfriend broke up with me on the fourth floor of Stewart Hall.
8. I had a clinical addiction to soft serve.

9. Middlebury paid for our orientation trips! Otherwise known as "MiddView," the program lasted about as long as anyone's first semester "relationship."

10. And here's the kicker: every single day, Atwater served ... DINNER.

Those were the days. There was nothing better than walking toward the twinkling lights of Atwater, terrified to pass all my upperclassmen "unicorns" (a phrase popularized by Israel Carr circa 2008.) Another thing that happened back then: I imagined that come May 2012, I'd be hugging my grandma, eating a final black bean burger under Mead Chapel and getting out of this town. Instead, I wandered up the hill to my own graduation 20 minutes late. I watched the rest of my class file past in black robes while I stood among the mass of (very sober) parents and tried not to freak out.

It can be hard being a "febbed reg." Even the name sounds really dirty, like we used a gross swab to fix an STD. We're a mismatched group of free spirits, reformed (?) screw-ups, procrastinators and slow-movers still clinging on to this panther ride for dear life. But I think I'm proud to be a part of this group, even if you don't know who we (or our former Twitter accounts) are. So, to the roughly 10-person class of 2012 turned 2012.5 (who will never read this column, but could the one over-eager-politically-conscious sophomore Feb please alert them to it?): let's enjoy our semester, before the world reminds us that being almost 23 makes you kind of an idiot. For now, we're over it.

Caring for the whole you

During the health and wellness presentation of my freshmen orientation three years ago, 500 other first-year students and I were given two memorable pieces of advice to get us through our first few weeks at Middlebury. First, we were encouraged to aim for a seven on a ten-point scale of appetite. That way, we wouldn't leave the dining hall uncomfortably full or peckish and cranky. Second, we were encouraged to play hard-to-get when looking for love. I left the presentation dismayed and confused about how my appetite and flirting had anything to do with my wellness.

TAKE CARE

Addie Cunniff '13 is from Tucson, Ariz.

Not surprisingly, the presentation's takeaway messages didn't stick either. When Thanksgiving dinner was served in Proctor, I ate my way to a happy 9.5. When the stars aligned to play hard-to-get, I chose the route of honest and open communication instead. The truth of the matter is that the presentation neither spoke to my particular concerns as a bright-eyed first-year nor caused me to reconsider the way that I approached my own health and well-being.

It's easy to forget that issues of health and wellness exist on this campus. On the whole, we're a good-looking bunch of students. We're intelligent and relatively

hard working. We are taught to have a critical eye for the world's most pressing issues. From an outsider's perspective, it seems like we have it figured out. Unfortunately, a stroll around Middlebury's campus on an average weekend night may give a different perspective. Alcohol-related dorm damage peaked two years ago. Last year's "It Happens Here" event attested to the existence of sexual assault on campus. Most of us have traded a cup of coffee for a few hours of sleep, and the number of students that have been tested for sexually transmitted infections doesn't even scratch the surface of the number of students engaged in sex. Why are we so good at so many things and so bad at taking care of ourselves?

After three years of being frustrated with the student body's disregard for their own well-being, I decided that I wanted to do something else — something more concrete — to change the way we talk about health. Plenty of lunchtime conversations about the prohibitive cost of STI testing, late nights spent studying and the Sunday morning post-party debrief led me to become a Student Wellness Leader. Student Wellness Leaders, liaisons to the Office of Health and Wellness, hope to address a few of these concerns. While we're by no means the only group on campus interested in issues of health and wellness, our sole purpose is to organize campus-wide

events, host speakers and form dialogue regarding the health of Middlebury students.

Last week, three other Student Wellness Leaders (SWLs) and I hosted a presentation on balanced living for First-Year Orientation. Instead of focusing our efforts on tips and tricks to staying healthy and sane during the transition to college life, we chose to share our own successes and failures in being healthy. We hoped to avoid the pitfalls of a high school health teacher preaching from the pulpit. We decidedly strayed away from discussing the USDA food pyramid and discussions of cardio versus weight training — though we couldn't resist passing out condoms. Hopefully, the presentation didn't go in one ear and out the other, as it had during my orientation, but rather encouraged new students to reflect on their own health and wellness.

This column is an effort to diversify the way we think about and talk about our well-being on campus. Throughout the coming year, SWLs will have the chance to write candidly about the issues they find interesting. Some of us want to talk about sexual health. Some of us want to talk about body image, alcohol, stress or sleep. All of us want to talk about what matters here at Middlebury. This is as much about your questions as it is our contributions — so get to know us because we want to get to know you.

IS THIS IT?

In the beginning of August, I found myself with no job, no place to live and, somewhat unexpectedly, no boyfriend. Was this my welcome into this mystifying time period known as the "Super Senior Feb semester?" Having one class a week while my graduated friends observed Ramadan in Tunisia and started start-ups that help people start start-ups? If being a super senior meant watching my prom date get married on Facebook and dwelling on my anxieties while working at the mail center, I was having none of it.

I explained this over Skype to my friend Max, who had just returned from a four-week program called The Bold Academy. According to their website, The Bold Academy is "a life-changing experience designed to help you find your deepest clarity, build confidence and unlock your ability to lead the life you've always wanted to live."

READER OP-ED

Bianca Giaever '12.5 is from Seattle, Wash.

"So it's like a self-help cult?" I asked him. "Yeah!" he said. "But let's face it. Sometimes, you just need it! And anyone who tells you they're always confident, driven and don't need self-help is full of bullsh*t."

I nodded tentatively as he worked up to his conclusion, happily exclaiming, "We're all f*cked up!"

Before this moment, I had laughed in self-help's face. Those Anna Quindlen books my Dad checked out from the library about how great it was to be over 50? Must be a scam. Meditation? Booring. But suddenly this notion that "we're all f*cked up" was speaking to me. I was 3,000 miles from home, and I had five weeks to kill. With a healthy coat of irony to protect me, I decided to give this "self-help" thing a try. In the words of the Bold Academy website, I was going to unleash my full potential, find meaning and make the world a better place!

Part 1: Reiki Treatment

My first self-help opportunity arose when I learned that a woman I worked with had some training from a Japanese Reiki Master. I didn't know what Reiki was or how to spell it, but I did possess stereotypes of the Japanese as healthy and calm people. My three and a half hour journey began by unclogging my heart Chakra with a pendulum and ended with identifying my flower essences.

Part 2: Soul Cycle

Soul Cycle, America's most expensive exercise class, is where hot yoga meets TV evangelist meets rave. It's a spin class

in candlelight attended by fifty of New York's highest-powered turbo babes. The temperature creeps up while techno music blasts into your eardrums and an instructor jumps around screaming motivational statements. "IF YOU CAN DO THIS, YOU CAN DO ANYTHING!" Emma screamed over the PA while the Indian food I just ate sloshed around in my stomach. I watched the butt a foot in front of my face bounce to the beat and sweat into its lulu lemon exterior. Why hadn't I invented this?

Part 3: Moving in with Grandparents

One day, I woke up and remembered that there were two adorable humans in Schenectady, New York who love me unconditionally. And they have a pool! They can't hear very well, so I yelled my future plans to them over our potato stew dinner and found it surprisingly remedial.

Part 4: Jogging

Before life in Schenectady, I considered jogging to be a masochistic ritual practiced by people who hated themselves. Then I discovered that through jogging I could literally run from my problems. I downloaded an app called "RunKeeper," where every five minutes a woman's condescending voice was broadcast over my music to tell me how slow I was going. But hey, I needed all the endorphins I could get.

Part 5: Free Middlebury Therapists

Did you know the price of your tuition includes these counselors? I mean, it would be a waste of money NOT to go talk to them! Did you know their phone number is (802) 443-5141 and you can call them right now?

Part 6: Burning Man

Originally created by a guy going through a breakup, Burning Man was clearly the culmination of my month long quest for self-betterment. If roller-skating naked in the desert doesn't make you feel like \$\$\$\$\$, then I guess self-help can't help you.

During my month of soul searching and heartbreak induced "crisis" come 30 years early, I soaked in the woo-woo and the vague clichés. When life gives you lemons, make lemonade, I told myself. Grab life by the antlers. Kick your anxiety in the groin. I don't think I'll be going back for a Reiki treatment any time soon, but I believe Max was right. When it comes to the enormous commercial ploy categorized as "self-help," sometimes you just need it.

On the road to find out

Last semester, prior to final exams, a professor of mine surprised the class by providing each student with two mix CDs. A sweet gesture — we now all had new jams to carry us through our tennage research paper and gut-wrenching three-hour final exam. But, really, why had he taken the time?

Although he may have simply delighted in compiling a selection of tunes that through title, lyrics or place of origin related to "civil conflict" (a genre not to be found on iTunes, Pandora and the like), he was not without an explanation, which I found to be genuine and above all, a piece of wisdom. He explained to us that while no professor likes to think the concepts he or she painstakingly teaches over the course of the semester evaporate from our brains the second the semester ends, he is not under the delusion that we would retain every detail of the subject in years to come. However, he continued, music resonates — it sticks with a person forever. So he hoped that by giving us a selection of music infused with the course's concepts we would never forget what we had learned. I found this to be a unique concept, one that in some small way I hope to replicate through this column.

College is a shared experience — through our four years, we may take slightly different paths, but in the end we suffer similar trials and revel in similar successes. In this column, I will seek to learn something from the common problems that plague us and not forget to appreciate the awesomeness these four short years have to offer. Our time here should not pass as a blur — it deserves to be remembered.

To begin, here's a thought: how often do we feel bound by what we could do — the "eyes are too big for your stomach" problem, and what we should be doing — that weight in one's stomach that says, "I am not living my life to its potential?"

When I arrived on campus as a first-year, I was overwhelmed by the concept that I could be an entirely new person — I'd been studying the same subjects and playing on the same sports teams since I was five — and not only did the opportunities now seem endless (Quidditch? Arabic? ... Newspaper?), but I was determined to sample them all.

The endeavor was and has continually proven impossible. In fact, not long

after classes started, I found myself requesting my name be removed from countless organizations' email lists and withdrawing from excess academic responsibility, trying to find my niche on campus.

Was I wrong to dial it back? I don't believe so in the slightest, but I may have made my decision for the wrong reasons. I left my schedule open, afraid of overdoing my responsibilities, but did not use my time to hike Snake Mountain, take a trip to Montreal or go apple-picking. Middlebury's abundance of opportunities are two-fold, work and play — and the play, I discovered a bit late in the game, is not reserved to beer pong tournaments and late-night Grille runs. As a first-year, I felt that if I removed myself from campus or the everyday goings-on I would be missing out. So I did not take advantage of those first few years of discovery, without the job hunt, senior work and my résumé to worry about.

Not everyone takes this route. Over the summer, a friend, while discussing the upcoming senior year, expressed the desire to focus his energies, which he had allowed to run rampant to all manner of clubs, activities, interests and friends.

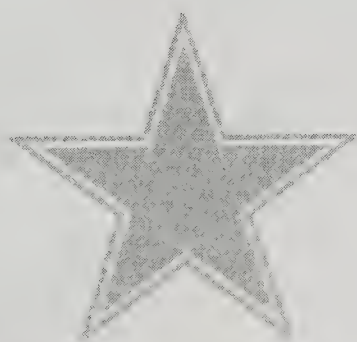
Regardless of which road you take, it seems to me that the first few years of college are confusing. Trying too much may leave you scraping for some continuity, while trying too little may leave you rushing to fill in the blanks.

Knowing what you want or who you want to be? The fact of the matter is that those who think they've got it — first-years and seniors alike — are kidding themselves. Figuring it out is what college is about (and even then we rarely come to a conclusion on the matter). All I can say is lay off on stressing about trying to make "yourself" happen. There's no one road, nothing you should or must be doing. Time is not running out and these four years are not the end-all-be-all defining factors of your life. Do what makes you happy and take a moment, especially in these first days of classes, to appreciate and enjoy.

SETTING ANTS ON FIRE

Michelle Smoler '13 is the managing editor from Westport, Conn.

"College is a shared experience — through our four years, we may take slightly different paths, but in the end we suffer similar trials and revel in similar successes."

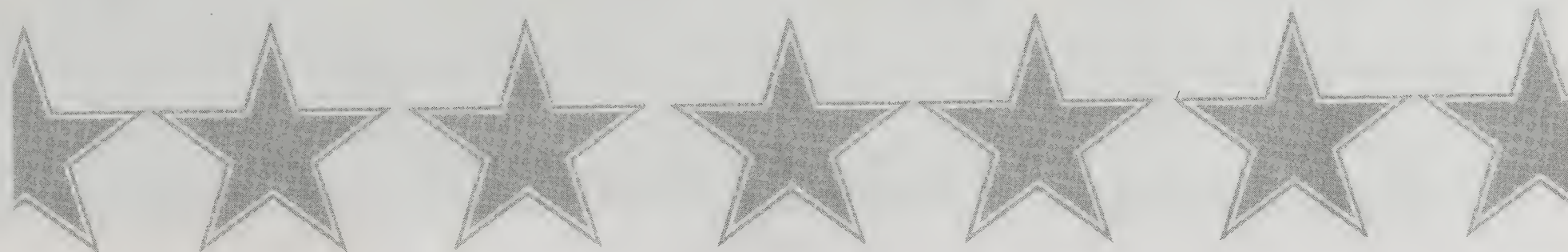


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Middlebury C

A Recap of the London

539

U.S. ATHLETES

COMPETED IN 25

OLYMPIC SPORTS INCLUDING

(# OF MEDALS)

1 Archery

29 Track & Field (Athletics)

2 Basketball

2 Boxing

4 Cycling

4 Diving

1 Fencing

6 Gymnastics

2 Judo

3 Rowing

1 Soccer

31 Swimming

2 Tae Kwon Do

4 Tennis

3 Volleyball

1 Water Polo

4 Wrestling

0 Badminton, Canoeing, Equestrian, Field Hockey, Modern Pentathlon, Sailing, Shooting, Synchronized Swimming, Table Tennis, Triathlon, Weight Lifting

Middlebury at the Olympics

By Tom Clayton

Additional reporting by Lauren Davidson

The games of the 2012 Summer Olympiad in London were watched by billions around the globe. The games, which ran from July 27 through Aug. 12, were ushered in by an extravagant opening ceremony directed by Oscar-winning British filmmaker Danny Boyle. An estimated 900 million viewers tuned in to watch the lighting of the Olympic torch and the Parade of Nations. While most spectators weren't lucky enough to get tickets to the opening ceremony, and most of the U.S. audience had to settle for a tape-delayed broadcast, two Middlebury alumni experienced the event live and in-person, and perhaps from the best vantage point of all: from the floor of the Olympic Stadium.

Triathlete Sarah Groff '04 and mountain biker Lea Davison '05 represented the United States at the highest level of global competition this summer, and only a few years after they both represented Middlebury — but in different events.

Groff was a standout swimmer at Middlebury, who found herself, eight years later, among the leaders after the 1.5 kilometer swim that begins the triathlon race in London. After biking 43.9 kilometers through suburban London — and over a Polish rider who fell in her path — Groff was still among the leaders. At the finish line, a grueling race nearly behind her, Groff finished a mere 10 seconds outside of a bronze medal.

"Fourth is the worst position to be in," said Groff. "But at the end of the day I'm an Olympian." She has four years to make up just 10 seconds. Watch for her to reach the podium in Rio.

Davison skied for the Division I Panthers, captaining the team in her senior year, taking the Eastern Collegiate slalom title, and finishing 11th in the slalom at NCAAAs. A Jericho, Vt. native, she took up mountain biking in high school — and while at Middlebury, she won the Division II 2004 collegiate short-track and cross-country National Championship races.

Asked which sport she preferred in a 2003 interview with the *Campus*, Davison, then a sophomore, replied, "I would say skiing and biking are equal now although biking is definitely creeping up there."

Her skiing career ended when she graduated in 2005, but her rise in the world of elite mountain biking continued after graduation as she focused exclusively on racing. A hip injury in late 2009 kept her off the bike through the 2010 season, but a torrid 2011 season, including top-ten finishes at the World Championship in Switzerland and the World Cup in Italy, propelled Davison to team USA.

She finished 11th in at the Hadleigh Farm course outside London at the Olympic games this summer. "I've had opportunities to ride all over the globe," she said, "but I always come back to Vermont," where she trains in the offseason, battling through her native hills.

THE U.S. WON THE MOST MEDALS TOTAL, FOLLOWED BY CHINA. GREAT BRITAIN CAME THIRD IN THE MEDAL COUNT.

LONDON IS THE FIRST CITY TO HAVE HOSTED THE MODERN OLYMPIC GAMES THREE TIMES, HAVING DONE PREVIOUSLY IN 1908 AND 1948.

THE GAMES FEATURED 34 NEW WORLD RECORDS.

THREE COUNTRIES, SAUDI ARABIA, QATAR AND BRUNEI, ENTERED FEMALE ATHLETES IN THE GAMES FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER.

"ALL OF MY EFFORTS TO GET TICKETS WERE DEFINITELY WORTH IT TO BE TO GO TO THE OLYMPIC GAMES. IT WAS A ONCE IN A LIFETIME EXPERIENCE."
— ANTHONY LEE '13

y Competes: London Olympic Games

A Transformative Spectacle: A Middlebury student and native Londoner reflects on the Games

By Joe Leavenworth Bakali

It's fair to say that there was a high degree of cynicism in London surrounding the build-up to the 2012 Olympic Games. After the problems concerning the security firm, G4S's inability to recruit a sufficient number of personnel as well as a number of disparaging comments from politicians both in the UK and abroad, expectations were very low and many predicted that the whole event would amount to an inefficient disaster.

The stereotype of the British culture of self-deprecation is certainly well founded. Often it feels like so many jokes have been made about our lack of competence and inability to do anything right that people have started to accept the prospect of eventual disappointment as inevitable.

However, after the rather idiosyncratic yet very entertaining opening ceremonies, it seemed like the mood began to change. I was fortunate enough to get tickets to some of the events, and stepping into the Olympic Park for the first time was like arriving in a wholly unfamiliar and different world. Volunteers of all ages smiled and jumped around enthusiastically, joking with the hordes of incoming visitors.

Despite the attempts of Londoners to avoid eye contact at all costs, when Mo Farah won his second gold medal of the Games it was announced on the Overground train and the whole carriage cheered. People were enthusiastically conversing on the way to the station — discussing what events they were going to and which particular athletes they were looking forward to seeing. The unmitigated joy and excitement surrounding the whole event was wonderfully refreshing and seemed to take everyone by surprise.

Although I was born in London and spent the majority of my childhood there, I have never felt particularly patriotic. Yet there I was, with my "Team GB" flag and hat, admittedly looking pretty ridiculous, but happy just to be involved in some way. And perhaps one of the greatest things about the entire event was that it felt wholly inclusive, in that the admiration and encouragement expressed towards the competitors was not reserved for British athletes alone. I was lucky enough to witness the first Saudi Arabian woman ever to run in the Olympics being given a resounding standing ovation, despite finishing last by quite a considerable margin in her 800-meter race.

The desperation for this wave of national enthusiasm to continue was evident in the reception towards the Paralympics. Record crowds flocked to the venues to witness further examples of sporting excellence, and afforded a whole new level of exposure to stars such as Jonnie Peacock and Ellie Simmonds, as well as the already famed Oscar Pistorius. That is not to say that the Olympics did not still have its detractors, and many were skeptical about or questioned the exorbitant cost lavished on a sporting event that would last a mere three weeks or so. The question remains about whether the new facilities will help to ensure an enduring legacy of sporting excellence, or will fall into disrepair and neglect, as was the case in Barcelona following the 1992 Games.

Furthermore, the success of the Games should not be allowed to mask the very real problems that the country is experiencing at the moment, with drastic proposed cuts to disabled benefits and the National Health Service.

Yet, as evidenced by the packed victory parade held last Sunday, for the moment it feels like most are still keen to revel in what was undoubtedly a fantastic summer, and one that I was fortunate to witness.

APPROXIMATELY
4,700 OLYMPIC AND
PARALYMPIC MEDALS
WERE PRODUCED BY
THE ROYAL MINT.

MORE THAN
10,000 ATHLETES
CAME TO LONDON TO
COMPETE IN THE
GAMES.

MORE THAN 7
MILLION TICKETS TO
OLYMPIC EVENTS WERE
SOLD IN TOTAL.

DURING THE
GAMES, MORE
BRITISH ARMED FORCES
WERE DEPLOYED IN LONDON
THAN WERE IN AFGHANIS-
TAN AT THE SAME
TIME.

MICHAEL
PHELPS BECAME THE
MOST DECORATED OLYMPIAN
OF ALL TIME AFTER WINNING
HIS 22ND MEDAL AT THE
GAMES.

THE GAMES'
TOTAL BUDGET WAS
SET IN 2007 AT A
STAGGERING \$14.46
BILLION (USD).

SAUDI
STAR AND
ED FEMALE
GAMES FOR
ME EVER

LY WORTH IT TO BE ABLE
LIFETIME EXPERIENCE."
LEE '13

IN BLUE:
IN WHAT WAS EXPECTED TO
BE A CLOSE BATTLE TO THE FIN-
ISH, RYAN LOCHTE BLOWS MICHAEL
PHELPS OUT OF THE WATER IN THE
400-METER INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY,
WINNING GOLD WHILE PHELPS
LOST OUT ON ANY MEDAL.

IN BLACK:
KRISTIN ARMSTRONG SHARES
A MOMENT WITH HER SON AS
SHE BECOMES THE OLDEST WOMEN
CYCLIST EVER TO TAKE GOLD AS
SHE DEFENDS HER 2008 1ST
PLACE FINISH.

IN RED:
GABBY DOUGLAS WITHOUT
HER TRADEMARK SMILE IN WAKE
OF THE TREMENDOUS CRITICISM OF
HER HAIR STYLE WHICH SPURRED
INCREDIBLE CONTROVERSY IN
THE MEDIA.

IN YELLOW:
MISTY MAY-TREANOR AND
KERRI WALSH JENNINGS WIN
THEIR THIRD CONSECUTIVE GOLD
IN BEACH VOLLEYBALL, ENTIRELY
UNDEFEATED OVER THE THREE
OLYMPIADS.

IN GREEN:
LEBRON JAMES CELEBRATES TEAM USA'S WIN
OVER SPAIN FOR THE GOLD
MEDAL IN BASKET-
BALL.

ADILLY CIRCLES: THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT, NO. 10 DOWNING ST., HARROD, THE GLOBE THEATRE, WESTMINSTER ABBEY, THE BRITISH MUSEUM

TASTE CHEESE WITH CHOPSTICKS



BY JIAYI ZHU

My little column has been here for a year, so I have had time to familiarize myself with its subject. Yet despite the title, this week's column neglects to mention neither cheese nor anything about chopsticks.

Now that I'm back at Middlebury as a junior, the first thing I realized as I walked into Ross Dining Hall was, God, please, bring Chinese food back to my life.

I spent this summer interning and visiting my friends' colleges around China. True to their friendly nature, every time I went to visit them, they would invite me out for dinner. But I always refused. Instead, I wanted to eat in their dining halls.

Going to other colleges' dining halls is torture, yet I love the experience. In comparing the food to our three dining halls, I rediscover every time how unfair it is that they get better food at a lower price.

Take Sun Yat-Sen University as an example. Their set-up is much like a fast food restaurant. You take a plate, go into a straight line, pick up the dishes you like and pay at your way out. Every dish is a set portion and costs around 3 RMB (about 50 cents).

On the day I went, they had five meat dishes and seven vegetable dishes, including fried fish, sweet and sour pork ribs, preserved meat with potato, tomato eggs, braised eggplant with edamame and cucumber salad. I opted for the spicy clams, lotus root and fried cabbage. The latter is something I miss a lot at the moment. The combination soy sauce and salt in the fried cabbage dish was a welcomed improvement, as opposed to Middlebury's lack of seasoning in their vegetable dishes.

I also miss the noodle stand. This magical foggy place stood at the end of the line with a huge noodle sign on the window. You could choose between noodles and rice noodles, and among different toppings including meatballs, fried eggs, tofu, sliced cucumber, carrot and sprouts. It took them less than a minute to cook the soup noodles, and they could process several bowls at the same time. They used chopsticks to take out the boiled noodles, put it in an empty bowl, poured the pre-made hot chicken soup into the bowl and added toppings you asked for at the top of the noodles.

In spite of this, my friends were complaining about their dining halls. They said the dishes sometimes are too spicy or salty, every week there are always some repeated dishes and the portion of food could be larger. My mixed emotions almost burst out, but I held them to myself and instead told them that we have unlimited access to local ice cream and new kinds of desserts through out the whole semester. They were jealous.

So I never told them about the pain of having unseasoned vegetable dishes, the frustration with cabbage as the only leaf-vegetable in the salad bar and the large amount of food waste generated because we can take whatever we want.

At least I don't need to worry about the waste oil being used in our dining halls and the mysterious insects in our rice, like my friends. The open hours of dining halls are longer here, and we have late night breakfast during finals.

Am I being too insatiable to wish that the menus of Sun Yat-Sen University dining halls would appear in Ross, Proctor and Atwater?

Orientation 2012, new and improved

First-years respond positively to programming changes

By Joe Flaherty

As a result of student feedback, Orientation for the class of 2016 featured several changes to the schedule of events designed to introduce first-years to life at the college.

"Every year after Orientation we ask first-years to fill out a survey and give us feedback on particular events," said Associate Dean of Students for Student Activities and Orientation J.J. Boggs. "After we get the results I compile those and send them across campus to the folks who have been involved and ask them to seriously consider the feedback in their planning process. Then we review it over and over again as we're planning and then again as we're implementing Orientation."

One change to Orientation was to the bystander intervention training.

"We love and believe very strongly in the idea of bystander intervention on campus, but I don't think we as a group hit the mark with how it was presented [last year]," said Boggs. "So this year [the Dean of Students and Assistant Professor of History of Art] Katy Smith Abbott and [Executive Director of Health and Counseling Services] Gus Jordan put their heads together along with feedback from a small core group and designed a training [program]."

The program's title, designed to bring to mind the College's mascot, was called P.A.W.S., an acronym that stands for "Pause. Assess. Worried? Speak Up!" Unlike last year, where faculty and staff led training for the class of 2015, the bystander intervention training this year was peer-facilitated.

This year's First-Year Counselors and Resident Assistants took small groups of first-years across campus to practice skits and learn about scenarios that might require bystander intervention.

"Giving students some control over the direction of the conversation made a pretty dry program more palatable and engaging, which is always desirable when you're talking about important stuff," Timothy Crocker '16 wrote in an e-mail.

Melissa Surrette '16 also appreciated that the training was student-led.

"We were in a group of 8 people, and we had to come up with skits to show how we would handle each scenario," she said. "I thought it was helpful to have it be student-run because you could have a student's perspective on what to do and what your peers would do."

Another change to Orientation occurred with the sessions titled, "Living Deliberately at Middlebury," where first-years heard from students and staff about living a balanced and healthy life on campus.

"We've done this really differently in the past," said Boggs. "Two years ago we focused on PowerPoint presentations on things like hazing and harassment and sexual assault."

The "Living Deliberately" sessions were two student-led panels, one on diversity and community on campus and one on living a balanced life on campus, with a third session led by a staff member from the Center for Teaching, Learning and Research (CTLR) on time management.

Much like with P.A.W.S., Boggs said the idea of students interacting with other students was appealing.

"What I love is that two of the three [sessions] were facilitated by upper-class students who were talking about their own personal experiences here and offering

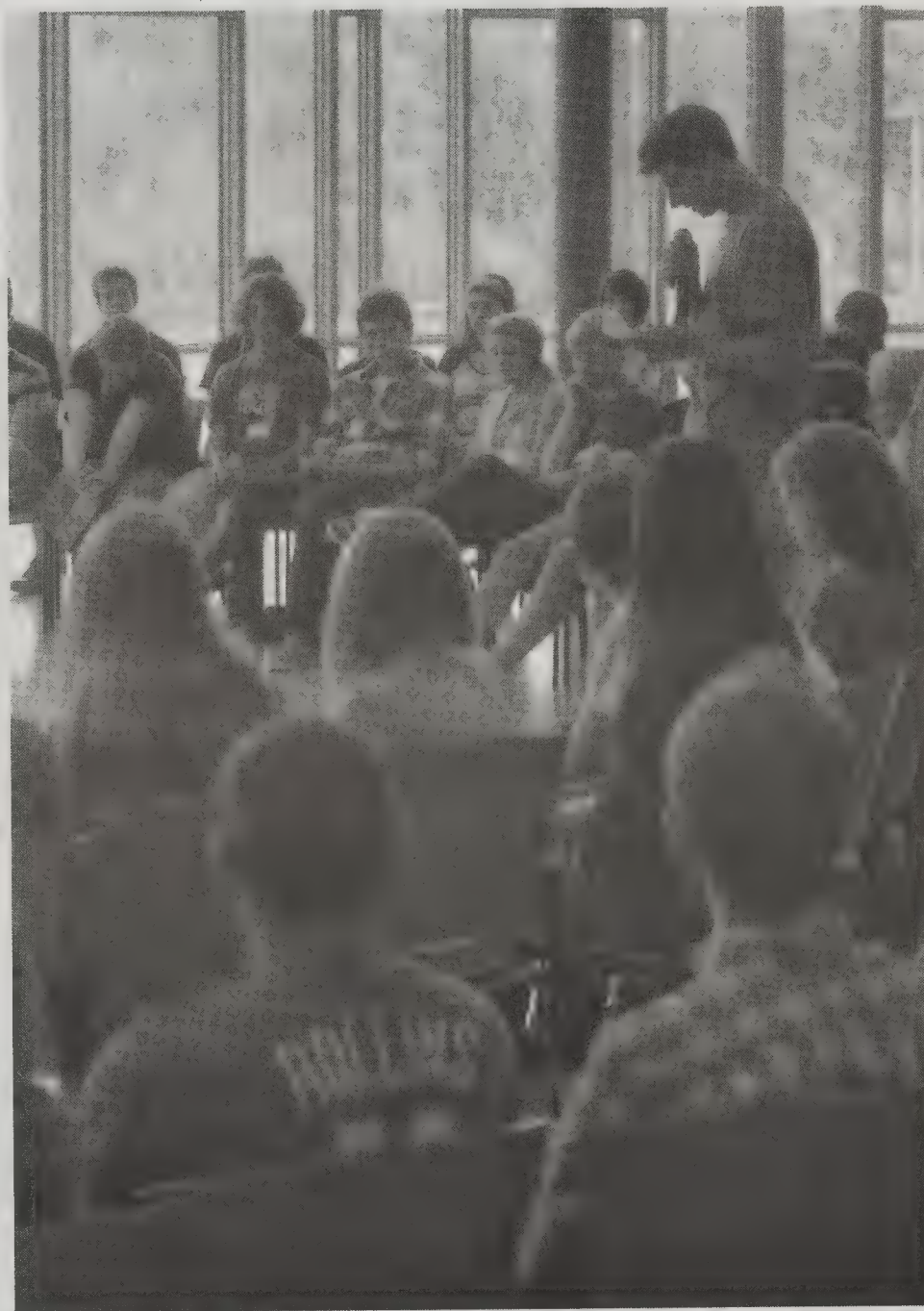


PHOTO COURTESY OF RESIDENTIAL LIFE

New First-Years listen while a student speaks during the Midd Uncensored event.

suggestions to first-years about how to approach things a little differently, maybe in a more healthy, balanced way."

Upper-class initiative did not stop at the panel discussions. Orientation for the class of 2016 also included a concert Saturday Sept. 8 featuring the group Bad Rabbits.

"The neat thing about [the concert] is there was a lot of input from the students who organize music events on campus," said Boggs.

Boggs explained that they wanted to hold a concert for the first-years but also make it open to the upperclassmen arriving on campus that Saturday to join the classes for the first campus-wide social event of the fall.

Attention turned back to the class of 2016 on Sunday night with the Arts for a Carbon Neutrality Dessert Social. This year's first-years will graduate the year the College is scheduled to attain carbon neutrality.

Along with highlighting the 2016 goal, first-year students were given a flash drive rather than the typical welcome packet in order to save paper.

"We're going to introduce them to the concept of carbon neutrality and what the College has done and what role they can play in making that happen over the next four years," said Boggs. "So we're going to end the week on this note of carbon neutrality."

Surrette, who was involved in a regional environmental council in high school, feels a big part the class of 2016 will play in the efforts for full carbon neutrality.

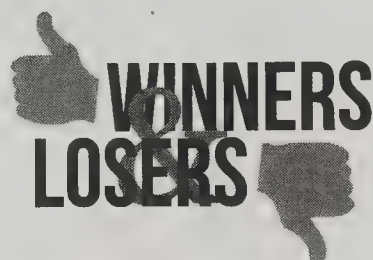
"I think it's really interesting that Middlebury is a full-fledged institution that is going to be carbon-neutral," she said. "I'm happy I am going to be one of the classes to celebrate in it."

More changes to Orientation are on the way for the Class of 2017. Those first-years will spend Monday through Thursday on campus for Orientation and then Friday through Sunday on a trip.

"We're calling the whole experience MiddView," said Boggs. "The off-campus pieces will look different for each student. It will just depend on what you choose, whether you choose an outdoor adventure, a community service trip or a cultural immersion trip. It could be anything from farming to perhaps exploring politics in Vermont to taking a hiking trip. It's going to be phenomenal."

Dylan Peters '16 was impressed with the current Orientation.

"This past week has served as a great introduction to the Middlebury community and to all of the great people, places and programs this school has to offer," he wrote in an email. "While I know that there is still much to learn here in my first year, and that I will most definitely make some mistakes, I can't help but feel overwhelmingly ready to get started."



PRESIDENT LIEBOWITZ

Mr. President gets a makeover for his crib

ATWATER LUNCHES

The one thing we missed the most all summer

FIRST-YEAR!

Welcome to campus, kids.

CHAMPAGNE BAR

One glass costs the same as a 30-rack of Keystone

HOMEWORK

Where's my adjustment period?

BEEES

Bring your EpiPen to Proctor terrace

World wanderers give back

This summer, students tackled causes that took them around the world. The *Campus's* Alex Strott investigates the diverse experiences of students dedicated to making a difference.

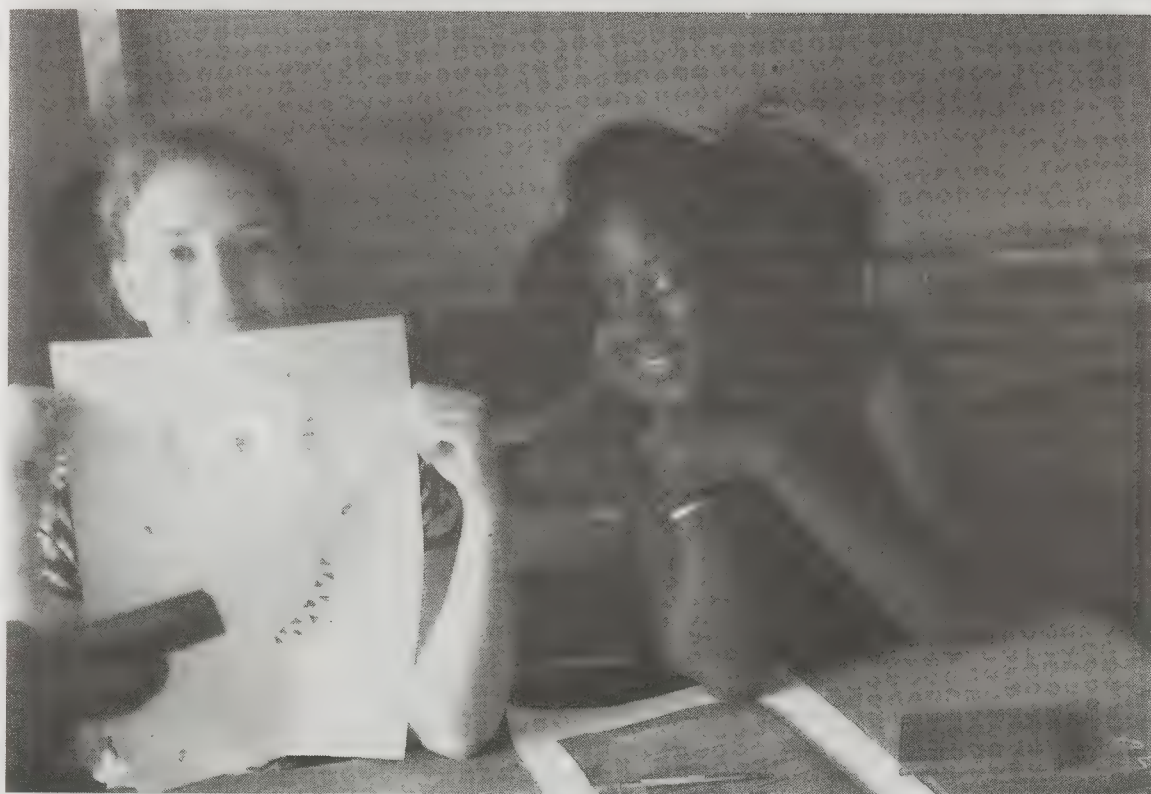


PHOTO COURTESY OF JULIA PAOLILLO

Julia Paolillo '15.5 helps Senegalese school children find their creative side through the Gindi program.

A GLOBAL EDUCATION: TEACHING ENGLISH IN SENEGAL

It's no surprise that Midd kids like to take full advantage of their summer vacation to give back to their communities, and Julia Paolillo '15.5 is no exception.

Originally from New Haven, Conn., Paolillo participated in a program after high school called the African Leadership Academy, located near Johannesburg, South Africa.

This summer she reunited with some fellow graduates and other friends to travel around Johannesburg and Morocco, but it was not until the end of June that her greatest adventure began.

Over the course of a year, a fellow graduate of Paolillo's from the African Leadership Academy established Gindi, a three-week summer learning program for middle-school-age children in the rural village of Joal, Senegal. After many calls, emails and let-

ters, recently elected President of Senegal, Macky Sall, agreed to fund the program out-of-pocket so it could be free for the participants.

During their first days in the village, Paolillo and the other student volunteers, including

Middlebury student Aissatou Gaye '16, advertised the program around town so that by the first day of classes they were excited to have over 70 kids show up.

Paolillo and UC Berkeley's Liam Cook were English teachers for the Gindi program.

They each had their own open-air classroom and, because of the funding, they were able to hand out school supplies to their students. Yet, their teaching experience definitely came with its challenges.

Paolillo speaks French, but Cook does not. Sometimes, goats would have to be chased out of

the classrooms, and because there was no air conditioning, temperatures in the building could reach over 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

"It was one of those adapt-and-go-with-it type deals," said Paolillo.

By the end of the program, however, Paolillo had no regrets.

"I learned that people live in different ways than I do, and that's okay," she said. "Just because I'm not familiar with it doesn't mean it's any less valid."

Paolillo said the experience also helped her solidify her decision to pursue some kind of African-focused or education-based degree.

"I learned this summer that not everybody is a teacher," said Paolillo. Still, she is passionate about improving education globally, starting with her own education at Middlebury.

PERU AND THE CLIMATE MOVEMENT

Last Winter Term, Rafael Manyari '15 took a class called "Next Steps for the Youth Climate Movement" taught by Pic Walker '93. Because of his Winter Term experience, Manyari found himself playing an important role in the youth climate movement in his home country of Peru this summer.

From late July to the end of August, Manyari interned in the Peruvian Amazon at ProPurús, a non-profit that works to promote and implement conservation initiatives to support biodiversity and the sustainable growth of local communities. ProPurús is the sister organization of Upper Amazon Conservancy (UAC), lead by Chris Fagan '93. These groups work to protect Alto Purús National Park, train vigilance committees, support the land titling of indigenous local communities and more.

Manyari's role as a web-developer, translator, editor and

logistics assistant gave him the opportunity to create reports for ProPurús and to plan and participate in a workshop called "The Role of Indigenous Land Titling in the Conservation of the Ucayali-Acre Border: The Alto Tamaya Case." ProPurús and the UAC flew in indigenous leaders and representatives from regional governments to discuss the importance of indigenous land titling as the first step towards preventing exploitation.

"Learning about my country's reality of cultural and biodiversity conservation showed me the high degree of exclusion that most Amazonian indigenous people live," said Manyari. "Indigenous communities are invisible to most Peruvians and the world."

The cause is one very close to Manyari's heart, but his experience at ProPurús and the UAC opened his eyes even wider to the reality of the environmental disasters happening in his coun-



Pucallpa



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEXA BEYER

Alexa Beyer '15.5 and Nicki Lange '14.5 enjoy the farmlands of Louisville, Ky. during the College's new summer sustainability program.

SUSTAINABLE LIVING: MIDD'S NEW SUMMER PROGRAM

This summer marked the kick-off of a brand-new Middlebury-funded internship program called Food Works Louisville. The program strives to solve farming and food access issues in and around Louisville, Ky. Alexa Beyer '15.5 interned at Food Works Louisville this summer, along with several other Middlebury students and recent graduates.

Every student was assigned a job relating to the local food system, from the business sector to organic farming. Beyer worked for a tiny nonprofit, Seed Capital Kentucky, developing a platform through which farmers could apply for loans that would allow them to tap into otherwise inaccessible markets.

Her job included making calls to local restaurants and food purchasers, developing price sheets and speaking directly to the farmers themselves.

"Speaking to them, hearing their stories and their outlooks and their concerns put such a face to the work we were doing," said Beyer. "It is so hard to be a farmer. They truly break their backs to grow our food." Food Works is structured to include a four-day workweek with the fifth day used as an opportunity to explore the local food system from a hands-on approach.

Students learned about sustainable farming practices and the nuances of the business behind the food sector, but mostly they learned to be more consci-

entious consumers of food.

Beyer said that, after interning at Food Works, she is going to try to eat locally with more awareness and "to advocate for a more just food system that allows local farmers a shot at success."

Another intern, Charlie Steinberg '15, worked with an online grocery subscription service.

He, like Beyer, expressed that being in a city trying to make a tangible change in their food system had a profound effect on him.

"I think in terms of the Middlebury experience, having us down there and coming back, we got a much more complete idea of what it means to bring change back home," said Steinberg.



From the College to Broadway: Potomac Theatre Project

By Santiago Azpurua-Borras

The Potomac Theater Project (also known as PTP/NYC) successfully concluded its 2012 summer season with its well-received productions of Caryl Churchill's *Serious Money* and Jim Petosa's *Monster*, which were both performed at Atlantic Stage 2 in Manhattan.

PTP/NYC is a professional theater company that has long enjoyed a history with the College's theater program. The leaders of the company are Professor of Theatre and Women's and Gender Studies Cheryl Faraone, Isabel Riexinger Mettler Professor of Theatre Richard Romagnoli and Jim Petosa, the director of the School of Theater in Boston University.

PTP/NYC is the only professional theater company in the country that has a continuous relationship as well as continuous affiliation with an undergraduate theater liberal arts program. Because of this relationship, about 10 to 14 College students are involved with the program every year.

"This company is an integral part of the Middlebury program," said Faraone. "This was its 26th season. At least 250 Middlebury students have been in [PTP/NYC] since it started. Of the 16 [current members], at least 14 were either current Middlebury students or Middlebury graduates."

This past summer marks the company's sixth season in New York. Before it found its home in the Big Apple, PTP/NYC called Washington, D.C. its home for twenty years. This summer proved to be a fruitful one, as critics raved about the shows.

"If there's a sharper-edged evening of entertainment in Manhattan at the moment, it involves juggling knives... In the Potomac Theater Project production, the over-the-top comedy remains raw and urgent, a scathing critique of capitalism that has no use for balance," wrote *New York Times* critic Daniel M. Gold about *Serious Money*.

One such performer in *Serious Money* was Adam Milano '15, who played the character Martin. Milano had a history with PTP/NYC that began even before he made his way into the freshman dorms two years ago.

"Seeing a show at PTP the summer before my senior year of high school is what ensured my application to Middlebury," Milano said. "One of my high school professors recommended Middlebury to me and suggested I go see something at PTP. A few months prior I had had a conversation during a visit to Middlebury with one of the theater professors."

The conversation was about both the program here at Middlebury as well as theater in general, and this was the most exhilarating of any college visit I had done. I was excited to see the work in New

York."

Milano had much to say about his experience with PTP/NYC this summer.

"Performing in Manhattan is an incredible experience," said Milano. "I cannot communicate enough how amazing it is that PTP/NYC gives students the opportunity to perform in an off-Broadway show. Running a show for a month that is being reviewed and seen by a New York theater crowd is an incredibly valuable opportunity to not only gain performance experience, but also to learn a lot."

Besides the time in the limelight, Middlebury students often got their hands dirty setting up the shows, as Noah Berman '13 observed. Berman performed in Petosa's play *Monster*, an adaptation of "Frankenstein," where he played the dual role of Cat and William. However, his duties also included running the sound board and coordinating ticketing for *Serious Money*.

"The hardest part of the summer was the middle of the first week when we first arrived in New York," said Berman. "We loaded in the sets and lights, and then we had about three days to put it all together. We spent pretty much all daylight hours in the theater doing manual labor. And by the third day, we were all exhausted."

Milano also had experience helping out behind the scenes. As assistant to the director for *Serious Money*, he attended all of the rehearsals and helped backstage during the performances.

Berman looking to his upcoming graduation expressed interest in staying on with PTP/NYC after completing his studies at the College, and hoped to follow in the footsteps of past PTP/NYC performers.

"Many of the class of '12 who were in the shows just stayed in New York, found apartments and started auditioning," he said. "If I get in [to PTP/NYC] next summer, that's probably what I will do too."

Faraone, who directed PTP/NYC's performances, echoed the actors' sentiments about the success of their summer in New York.

"It was a terrific summer," she said. "In particular, the show *Serious Money* ... really caught fire."

Faraone looks forward to next season with great anticipation.

"Next summer we're bringing *Serious Money* back," she said, since "it was one of the most successful shows we've ever run."

According to Faraone, *Serious Money* will be paired with a play called *The Castle* written by Howard Barker. Barker, a British writer, is a favorite of the College theater program.

"We have done eight of [Barker's] plays here at Middlebury," said Faraone. "We are actually producing *The Castle* here in



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY

TOP: Joe Varca '02 and Noah Berman '13 in a scene from PTP/NYC's *Monster*.

BOTTOM: Adam Milano '15 and the cast of *Serious Money* during a dance number.

Middlebury next Spring."

PTP/NYC is a long-held tradition celebrating the theater and everything it encapsulates.

As Berman noted, "no other college has anything like it."

After a successful and productive summer, the company is now planning and working towards the production of its next season.

For now, audiences must wait until next summer's two productions make their debut on stage to catch another glimpse of the talent, effort, time and hard work that goes into the making of a PTP/NYC production.

**DON'T
MISS
THIS**

Opening Lecture: China Modern

Maggie Clinton, assistant professor of history, and John D. Berninghausen Professor of Chinese Thomas E. Moran discuss the seismic historical changes revealed by the commercial products on view in the *China Modern* exhibit.

9/13, 4:30 P.M., MCFA ROOM 221

Beginners

Shortly after the death of his mother, Oliver faces another shock: his 75-year-old father, Hal, announces that he is gay. Pulled into Hal's proud exploration of the identity so long denied to him, Oliver attempts to infuse his own romance with his father's joie de vivre.

9/15, 3 & 8 P.M., DANA AUDITORIUM

Living Portraits

Now on display: oil paintings and ceramic sculptures created in Jim Butler's spring Portraiture class, some of which were presented in the Spring Student Symposium. The students present vivid images communicating the personalities of people who have made a difference in their lives.

9/18-9/25, JOHNSON MEMORIAL BUILDING

SCIENCE SPOTLIGHT: SUMMER RESEARCH

By Alexandra Kennedy

While some students spent their summers hitting the sandy beaches on America's coasts, over 100 students at the College hit Battell Beach in their hours off from scientific research with professors.

These students took advantage of one of the greatest benefits to studying at a small, liberal arts college — opportunities to do one-on-one research that would be reserved for graduate students at larger institutions — applying skills learned in the classroom to projects in the labs and out of doors, learning about the complexities of the natural world in a tranquil, rural Vermont setting.

"Doing research during the summer allows you to devote large chunks of time and energy to a project in a way that would be impossible during the school year," said Amanda Reis '13, who worked for Assistant Professor of Biology Mark Spritzer.

"Aside from working on my project, I got to help out with other projects going on in the lab, so I got to do things like surgeries and behavioral testing that I haven't had a chance to do during the school year."

Reis participated in Spritzer's behavioral neuroendocrinology lab.

"The project looked into the effects of social interactions on neurogenesis (the creation of new neurons) in the hippocampus of adult male rats," Reis said.

The lab focused specifically on social memory as a gateway into the workings of neurogenesis. Rats were divided into four groups after a successful pilot project in

which it was determined that rats could distinguish between previous cagemates and new ones.

One of the benefits of this type of research is the possibility to continue the study into the fall as an independent project, which Reis has chosen to do now that she has returned for the fall semester.

"This fall, I will be staining very thin slices of the brains of the subjects for new brain cells and counting the number of new brain cells in the hippocampus," said Reis. "We hypothesized that there will be an effect of social interaction on the number of new brain cells in the hippocampus."



COURTESY
Summer researcher
Amanda Reis '13.

The consequences of this project reach far and wide, and have implications beyond the rat models that it studied. Reis noted that this research can extend to benefit human health and novel developments in Alzheimer's treatments and medicine.

"Hopefully, the results of this project will give us more information about the processes involved in neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimers, which have been shown to be correlated with decreased levels of neurogenesis," Reis said.

Over the summer, students studied subjects ranging in physical size from the very small, like the lab rats, to the very large, like Middlebury's natural landscape.

Ford Van Fossan '13 worked with Associate in Science Instruction in Environmental Studies Marc Lapin.

The study afforded Van Fossan hands-

on participation in an ecological inventory of college lands.

"Essentially we would walk through the various properties of the College's 3,000 acres of mountain lands in Rip-ton and Hancock and describe what we saw, noting both ecological communities and invasive species and cultural features such as eroded roads, old stone walls and homestead sites," he said. "Then using our observations, aerial photographs and GIS programs we would map out the extent of these different forest communities."

Van Fossan and Professor Lapin's study is a piece in the puzzle to analyzing the ways we use our land.

Their research will help inform the College on future decisions regarding its beautiful natural surroundings.

"This was part of a larger report being compiled about the ecological characteristics of College lands. This report is to help inform land use decisions such as logging and trail building on Middle-bury's properties," Van Fos-san said.

Not only did Reis and Van Fossan bring their scientific interests and passions from the classroom to the lab for the summer, but find that their research experience has fortified their academic skills just in time for the start of a new semester.

"Working with Professor Spritzer was great," said Reis.

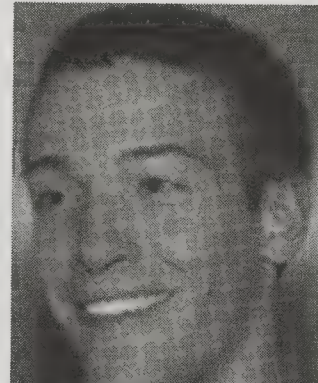
"He is extremely knowledgeable and organized, and was very patient with us

while having high expectations.

I definitely learned a lot about the research process from him as well as information about the specific subject area."

"I learned a ton working with Profes-sor Lapin, everything from identification of forest plants to ways in which to read the history of land use in a forest," Van Fossan said.

"I also firmed up and expanded my knowledge of ArcGIS. I am excited to continue working on the project this semester and to eventually see the final report."



COURTESY
Summer researcher Ford
Van Fossan '13.

Among the community of summer student researchers, excitement and enthusiasm for science abounds for the prospects of continuing the work and making new discoveries everyday.

"I'm curious to see more research done in the field of neuroscience. We've learned a lot about the way the brain works in the last few years, but there is still a lot that we don't understand," Reis said.

"I'm also excited about the medical possibilities of further stem cell research, and I hope that some research is done on non-drug medical interventions."

While sometimes it may seem to students that the campus is a small world, the summer researchers prove that the world at large is accessible to us right in our own Vermont backyard, with some of its biggest, most complex questions waiting to be asked — and starting to be answered.

BOOKING IT

BY MICHAEL GAFFNEY

When Stephen Greenblatt was an undergrad at Yale University, he stopped by the local Co-op and, browsing through some unwanted and cheap books, he discovered a prose translation of Lucretius's two thousand year old poem, "On the Nature of Things." He purchased it for ten cents.

Greenblatt begins his brilliant and fascinating new book, *The Swerve: How the World Became Modern*, with a similar anecdote of discovery. He recounts the journey of Poggio Bracciolini, a papal secretary and humanist who, in the winter of 1417, traveled to a monastery looking for ancient manuscripts. There he rediscovered, by accident, one of the last known copies of Lucretius's text, thus preventing its disappearance into oblivion.

It is the bold thesis of this book that this moment, the rescue of "On the Nature of Things," caused a "swerve" in the course of history, urging Europe into the Renaissance and the Early Modern period. According to Greenblatt, Lucretius's poem, written in 50 B.C.E., had this history-altering and "dismantling" effect because of the dangerous ideas that the poem contained, including the existence of atoms and the idea that the universe lacks a creator or afterlife. The release, spread and percolation of these concepts, so argues this book, pro-

foundly altered the way the world thought.

It might sound absurd to suggest that a single poem could cause such a profound ripple effect. Greenblatt's book reminds the reader of a classic superhero movie, except here, it is "one text that saved the world." But Greenblatt's thinking is not all that strange, and it in fact follows one of the most significant movements in literary criticism in recent years, New Historicism.

A scholar practicing this method of criticism often focuses on reviving and discussing a little-known writing or anecdote, making the resuscitated document the center piece in an analysis of a more famous Early Modern text. Such a writer also attempts to show that history does not simply influence texts, but that texts influence history. This book is the ultimate New Historicist tale, written with the same style as the criticism, but less obscure.

The Swerve does not simply explore the profound implications of the poem on history, though; those fascinating and ultimately convincing details that show where exactly the text influences writers and thinkers lie in the back 80 pages of

the book. The first 180 pages of this book, barring the anecdote discussed at the beginning of this review, involve historical context: the world in which Lucretius wrote "On The Nature of Things," the tragedy of lost texts in the ancient Roman world, the Christian attempt to smother the Epicurean philosophy, information about the humanists, bibliomaniac monks copying old texts, the nature of printed scrolls at the time Poggio rediscovered Lucretius, Poggio's life as a secretary to a corrupt pope. Though these details sometimes seem tangential, Greenblatt consistently manages to connect his commentary to the initial anecdote of Poggio's journey, using the information to paint a powerful story.

If this kind of world isn't compelling to you, there are still other reasons to read this fine pop-New-Historicist accomplishment. For one thing, Greenblatt showcases some gorgeous prose; in describing, for example, why Poggio may have been grasped by old texts, it was because they "were not texts but human voices." He also manages to find and exploit a great deal of humor during the course of weaving his story, referring to the corrupt anti-pope

as a "thug, but a learned thug."

Aside from his elegant prose and wit, Greenblatt also frequently makes use of his powerful imagination. Because of the rampant absence of information on his subject, Greenblatt is often forced to conjecture about the details of his story. The reader frequently notices words like "perhaps" and "could" and "might have been" peppering his work. The constant speculation, far from revealing a lack of research, makes the reader remember how little history has been preserved, and how important the imagination is in any work of writing.

But perhaps the most interesting aspect of this book, and the biggest reason you should read it, is the contagious enthusiasm that Greenblatt has for all things literary. He writes with not only passion, but with unstoppable love for and fascination with his subject. In an interview with Charlie Rose about the book, Greenblatt mentioned, with a smile, that he was thrilled to have learned on Amazon that Lucretius was, briefly, the third best-selling poet in America. You could tell that this kind of resurrection was his dream all along.

Recommendation: Definitely read it. Or read anything by Greenblatt, for that matter, especially if you're looking for inspiration for writing an academic essay.

THE SWERVE: HOW THE WORLD BECAME MODERN Stephen Greenblatt

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Renovated Center for the Arts prepares new exhibits

By Deirdre Sackett

This summer, the 20-year-old Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts (CFA) found itself rejuvenated and reborn. Throughout June, July and August, crews toiled day after day on the project, gouging the earth in the front lawn, revealing the building's copper veins.

Despite this lengthy process, the construction was not as drastic as it appeared. According to Richard Saunders, director of the Museum of Art, the renovations consisted "primarily of replacing faulty sprinkler pipes in the walls." The CFA was due for repairs to its mechanical systems. However, these repairs were not the full extent of the summer improvement.

In addition to piping upgrades, the museum also rearranged certain offices. This was done mostly to accommodate the new History of Art and Architecture suite in the CFA. Minor improvements to security and surveillance systems were also added.

"Unfortunately," said Saunders, "the pipes [were] inside the walls and ceilings of the galleries, which necessitated we remove most art objects for safety and security reasons."

However, once the repairs were completed, the museum set to reinstalling old galleries and preparing new exhibits for their September openings.

One of these new exhibits, which opened Sept. 4, is titled "Camera Work: Stieglitz, Steichen, Strand and Company." Based on Charles A. Dana Professor of History of Art & Architecture Kirsten Hoving's course from last year, "Camera Work: Alfred Stieglitz and Photography," the exhibit will highlight three luminaries

of American photography: Alfred Stieglitz, Edward Steichen and Paul Strand. The exhibit will also display issues of the journal "Camera Work," which was published by Stieglitz between 1903 and 1917. In addition to the three photography powerhouses, the exhibit will also feature other contemporary photographers of the time.

Another new exhibit opening Sept. 13 is called "China Modern: Designing Popular Culture 1910-1970." With over 175 articles of Chinese culture — such as designs, cinema, pop culture icons, pulp fiction, fashion, games and toys — the exhibition features iconic imagery that chronicles China's changing attitudes and identity throughout its history. On loan from the Pacific Asian Museum in Pasadena, California, the exhibition gives a cultural timeline of how China grew into a world superpower. From posters describing the "worker's paradise" and the bright future of China, to the images of modern boy and girl in advertising, "China Modern" will offer a glimpse at the still-evolving fabric of China's myriad culture.

There is good reason for the recent renovations and new exhibits: the CFA is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. To honor its legacy at the College, the museum will be hosting the Nicholas R. Clifford Symposium later this month, featuring the theme of "Creativity and Collaboration."

With all this and more on the horizon, it will certainly be an exciting year for the CFA. Students interested in participating in museum events are encouraged to register to become a Friend of the Art Museum to be informed of upcoming events and exhibits.



COURTESY

Travelling Through Space, one of the posters from "China Modern," illustrates China's economic and cultural growth through the 1970s.

Astronomy professor reaches for the stars

By Kate Miley

At 1:31 a.m. on Aug. 5, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Mars Curiosity rover successfully landed on the surface of Mars after an eight-and-a-half month journey.

Later that same day, the College released a statement in the weekly news hub, *MiddPoints*, announcing that Gamaliel Painter Bicentennial Professor of Physics Frank Winkler and his colleagues from various universities have been granted the opportunity to use Hubble Space Telescope, another famous, though older, NASA instrument.

Winkler, a member of the faculty since 1969, has an interest in the life cycle of stars and especially in stellar explosions.

It is therefore no surprise that the two projects for which Winkler and his associates are receiving Hubble observation time and associated funding — supplied through the NASA-supported Space Telescope Science Institute — are related to the life cycle of stars.

The first project, *Stellar Life and Death in M83: A Hubble-Chandra Perspective*, focuses on photographing the galaxy M83 at various light wavelengths.

For Winkler and his colleagues from Johns Hopkins as well as other parts of the US and Australia, M83 is an unprecedented opportunity to learn about stars and their life cycle.



COURTESY

Gamaliel Painter Bicentennial Professor of Physics Frank Winkler has been granted use of the Hubble Space Telescope.

"M83 is one of the most active galaxies in terms of star birth and destruction that is relatively easy for scientists to study using Hubble and other technologies," said Winkler.

"In order to learn about stellar life and activity, one needs to go to the source and examine stellar explosions as they occur. Just like newer doctors might spend time in the emergency room to learn a broad range of skills and knowledge relating to

human life, we are looking at the abundant activity in M83 to learn more about a star's life. M83 is, in essence, the emergency room of the sky."

For the second project, *The Remarkable Young Supernova Remnant in NGC 4449*, Winkler is working with an entirely different team — comprised of colleagues from the Space Telescope Science Institute, Dartmouth University and the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics — to study the elements emitted by the remnant of a very bright supernova, or an exploding star.

The supernova remnant is of great importance because exploding stars emit elements, such as carbon and oxygen, from which all future stars and life are born.

The Hubble Space Telescope will be able to identify which elements the supernova gives off by studying the ultraviolet (UV) light emitted by the remnant of the supernova.

In fact, continued observations by Hubble for this project are scheduled for later in September.

"Supernovae play a key role in the production of the heavy elements of the universe. They provide the building blocks of life, and even we [humans] are made up of recycled star materials," said Winkler.

The observation time granted to Winkler and his colleagues is especially noteworthy due to the fact that Hubble has an

eight-to-one over-subscription rate each year; in other words, for every eight projects proposed, there is only time for Hubble to carry out one of those explorations.

This situation necessitates that each applicant provide a detailed plan and schedule of the proposed project, which Winkler and his colleagues from both projects submitted early in 2012.

Also, in order to be seriously considered for observation time using Hubble, candidates must have a real need of a satellite telescope.

Winkler and his colleagues thus worked as long as they could using ground-based telescopes and instruments.

No students will be assisting Winkler with these two projects due to the international nature of the teams involved and the large amount of clearance and approval needed to gain funding and access to the Hubble Space Telescope.

However, Winkler is still able to foster enthusiasm for the subject in his classes, namely the course "Introduction to the Universe."

"Professor Winkler is an amazing teacher for science and non-science majors alike," said Madi Clark '14. "He opened my eyes to the true beauty and knowledge lying outside of the Earth. He helped to spark a curiosity and an appreciation for the universe that I never had before."

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THE REEL CRITIC: SUMMER MOVIE RECAP

BY ALEXANDRA KENNEDY

The Queen of Versailles

In light of the recent Republican and Democratic National Conventions in which the American economy was especially emphasized by both presidential candidates, and several years into the recovery from the worst economic troubles the United States have encountered since the Great Depression, *The Queen of Versailles* is a relevant, and not to mention impeccably done, film. Fitting and well crafted, it is an in-depth look at the messy state of American financial affairs centered around one family's singular story. Produced by the documentarian Lauren Greenfield (who won Best Director at Sundance for the film), *The Queen of Versailles* was originally intended to be a piece about a family building the largest house in the United States, a Florida mansion inspired by the French royal residence, Versailles. The beginning of the film introduces us to the couple behind the construction, David and Jackie Siegel — the founder and CEO of Westgate Resorts, a timeshare-based real estate empire, and his wife, a much younger former model and mother of eight.

Greenfield captures how, as the lavish plans for building go underway, the same pursuit of cheap money and fast real estate that Westgate made its policy in order to climb to the top of the industry are the company's undoing.

As a result, *The Queen of Versailles* becomes a very different film. What was to be an exploration of the opulence of the upper crust instead transforms into a study of the effects of the crash.

The film's conflict is multi-faceted and demonstrates the deep impact of the economic crisis of 2008 not just on the upper echelons of American society, but also on other acquaintances of the Siegels' who are not of the same social standing. Two particularly interesting storylines that deal with the Siegels' lim-

ousine driver catch the viewers attention. He, too, lives in a comfortable home, but finds himself having to borrow a Bentley from the Siegels in order to drive other clients and keep his business alive — if even just briefly.

Yet perhaps the most fascinating storyline is that of Jackie's childhood friend from small-town upstate New York. Inseparable in high school, the two women ended up pursuing different careers and their lives veered off in very different directions — Jackie graduated from college, her friend did not; Jackie left New York, her friend did not. And, of course, we can't forget the more blaring difference: Jackie married a billionaire, and her friend did not. By the time Jackie goes back home to visit with friends and family, shortly after the crash, she finds her friend in dire financial straits, unable to make payments on a more modest home and facing the threat of foreclosure. Ironically, Jackie faces the loss of her home — or, better said, her palatial estate — as well.

In spite of myself, while watching *The Queen of Versailles* I found myself sympathizing with Jackie. She has an easygoing, pleasant presence on screen, and serves as a matter-of-fact narrator for her family's experience. David Siegel is a bit pricklier, proving that his wife may really be his better half. Rounding out the interviews are their children, who display varying degrees of responsibility, accountability and indulgence, and their longtime housekeeper, whose stories of her struggle to maintain contact with her family abroad and weathering out the financial storm with the Siegels' are affecting.

As Americans continue to climb steadily out of a recession so deeply affected by the housing bubble, *The Queen of Versailles* is not only pertinent, but also expertly done.



LAUREN GREENFIELD/MAGNOLIA PICTURES
Jackie Siegel strikes a pose in front of her luxurious (and a bit over-the-top) Florida home.

To Rome with Love

Woody Allen set the bar quite high with his last film *Midnight In Paris*, winner of the 2011 Academy Award for Best Screenplay. That being said, *To Rome with Love* pales in comparison, and what should have been a fully-fledged love letter to the Eternal City seemed more like a trite Hallmark card.

To Allen's credit, *To Rome with Love* features some of the best talent in Italy — most notably, distinguished actor Roberto Begnini, whom Americans perhaps best know for his starring role in *Life is Beautiful* (*La vita è bella*). Begnini plays an ordinary Roman citizen, Leopoldo, who goes to sleep one night in complete anonymity, and wakes up the next day to become a superstar celebrity, followed by paparazzi and under the glare of the media spotlight — even when all he has to show off is a morning shave and the most pertinent questions that he answers from journalists involve his daily routine.

Not only does the film feature the best of Italy's actors, but also its singers, including the renowned tenor Fabio Armiliato, who plays Giancarlo, a funeral parlor owner who can sing incredible opera — but only in the comfort of his own shower. Woody Allen, playing Jerry, a self-proclaimed visionary and retired music representative with a penchant for odd operatic staging — quite honestly, a thinly veiled version of Allen himself (as tends to happen when he writes parts for himself into his own movies) — tries to make something of Giancarlo's talent.

But, in the end, Jerry's whining monologues and incessant ramblings do little to add to the film. Sure, he sets up a truly hilarious situation by bringing Giancarlo onto the Roman stage in a mobile shower to dazzle the audience with his voice — accompanied, of course, by the sound of running water in addition to the orchestra. Yet, on his own, Jerry's contributions don't go much further than setting up a subplot. In fact, his whining got to be a detractor before long.

And here seems to be one of the film's

weaknesses: the American actors and their plotlines seem lacking in comparison to these well-constructed, farcical and side-splitting Italian roles and plots. Indie sweetheart Allison Pill plays a bland tourist named Hayley, Jerry's daughter who falls in love with Giancarlo's son Michelangelo. Their dialogue was so stilted that it is scoff-worthy. Jesse Eisenberg plays a pathetic dupe of an American college student, Jack, caught

in a love triangle between his girlfriend Sally (Greta Gerwig) and the alluring, but pretentious, wholly self-absorbed and sex-obsessed Monica (Page). The quasi-spirit of an American architect, John, played well by Alec Baldwin, seems to play Jiminy Cricket to Jack's Pinocchio. Ultimately, Jack gets his comeuppance and realizes just how good



PHILLIPE ANTONELLO/SONY PICTURES CLASSICS
Monica (Page) and Jack (Eisenberg) take a romantic stroll in a Roman park.

spirit-John's advice was, but all too late. The only redeeming part of this storyline is Baldwin's steady stream of one-liners. The rest is referential, affected speeches delivered unconvincingly by Page and company.

What's too bad about these young, gifted American actors is that their characters is so paper thin, that I wished to return to the subplots involving the Romans. A heretofore unmentioned Penélope Cruz plays a popular prostitute Anna and showed off her Italian language skills in a delightful romantic subplot, a love square around a naïve newlywed couple Antonio (Alessandro Tiberi) and Milly (Alessandra Mastronardi) and a famous actor Luca Salta (Antonio Albanese) in what could have been its own feature film.

In fact, I feel as though Allen would have done well to stick with the zany, Italian faux-celebrity, shower-singing and partner-swapping plots, and done away with the inconsequential and uninteresting American navel-gazing.

While there are plenty of drawbacks, there are some scenes of pure comic gold. And, besides, an Allen is always an Allen: worthy of a watch for its own sake.

Moonrise Kingdom

A poignant love story, a coming-of-age saga, a tale of adults grappling with maturity, and an ode to scouting: acclaimed filmmaker Wes Anderson's *Moonrise Kingdom* is all of these things and more.

While set in 1965, predating the so-called "Summer of Love" by a few years, *Moonrise Kingdom* is indeed a summer love story. Co-written by Roman Coppola (older brother to director Sofia) and Anderson, the script details the adventures of two twelve-year-olds, Sam and Suzy (played with candor by Jared Gilman and Kara Hayward, respectively), who escape their sleepy New England town on the island of New Penzance, and run away with each other into the wilderness. Suzy, a troubled young girl, and Sam, a boy in and out of foster care who is spending his summer at camp with the Khaki Scouts, find the sort of love and hope in each other that the outside world denies them — and their relationship is subtle and sweet, but never saccharine. It's a candid and earnest portrayal that serves as a reminder to audience members of first experiences with love.

As a hurricane brews off the coast of New Penzance, Suzy's parents — the island's police chief and Sam's scoutmaster — grapple with their own personal problems and attempt to locate Suzy and Sam before the weather takes a turn for the worse. Their urgent search is interspersed with shots of Suzy and Sam on their grand adventure, who muse on life, love and the future.



SCOTT RUDIN PRODUCTIONS
Suzy (Kara Hayward) and Sam (Jared Gilman) escape into the wilderness as their parents search for them in the heartwarming *Moonrise Kingdom*.

The cast features some Anderson favorites — including Bill Murray as Walt, Suzy's hapless father — and other celebrated Hollywood actors. Among them are Frances McDormand as Suzy's well-intentioned mother, and Bruce Willis, who plays Captain Sharp, the local policeman spearheading the effort to find the missing children. Edward Norton is notable as well in his role as Scout Master

Ward, who teams up with Captain Sharp to relocate his missing camper Sam, and, by extension, Suzy. His sincere and hopelessly goofy performance delivers big laughs. Other players include Jason Schwartzman as another sly scout leader and the commanding Tilda Swinton as a no-nonsense representative from Child Services. This is a knockout cast, and together, they build a beautiful story as tender as it is harsh, fantastical as it is surreal.

Moonrise Kingdom features Anderson's signature cinematographic style, as he makes use of imaginative ways of shooting, mixing pans and zooms that defy film school textbook rules, and in so doing boldly create the world of New Penzance. Anderson and Coppola's writing is endearing, fresh and sharply funny. Peter Travers of Rolling Stone raved about the film's humor and heart.

"[T]he hilarious and heartfelt *Moonrise Kingdom* is a consistent pleasure. By evoking the joys and terrors of childhood, it reminds us how to be alive," he wrote.

Indeed, the film is a poetic and personal delight that is an absolute must-see.



DAMON HATHEWAY (56-48, .538)



OWEN TEACH (22-26, .458)



TOM CLAYTON (0-0, .000)

How many goals (closest guess) will the men's soccer team tally in its three games this week?

FOUR
Closest guess? CLOSEST GUESS?! Hall of Fame sports editor Dillon Hupp '12 wouldn't stand for this.

FIVE
We all know the tornado-force wind last Saturday was the reason for lack of scoring...

SIX
I'm still very optimistic. Don't let me down boys.

Over/Under: 280 passing yards for Robert Griffin III against St. Louis next Sunday?

OVER
That Rams defense gives up a lot of yards.

UNDER
I'd be happy to be proven wrong on this one.

UNDER
Because I am an Andrew Luck type of guy.

How many sets will the volleyball team LOSE in two matches this week?

TWO
This would be a sweep at home, but playing on the road is worth a set in VB I've heard.

FIVE
Put it on the board.

THREE
Digs and kills, digs and kills.

Win or Loss?: The Middlebury College Rugby Club against UMASS-Amherst this Saturday.

WIN
Forget Division I, Six Nations here we come.

WIN
It will make Ben Stasiuk's '13.5 21st birthday celebration on Saturday that much sweeter

WIN
Convincing first weekend for the rugby lads.

Will the NHL reach a collective bargaining agreement by September 15th?

NO
Ugh. Does anyone care? The real question is when will the NFL agree to a deal with the Referee's Union?

NO
It pains me to say it, but I think we may miss some hockey action this year.

YES
Gary Bettman, return my calls. We can work this out. Don't listen to Damon.



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DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS ERIN QUINN ACCEPTS DIRECTORS' CUP



COURTESY OF JOAN TIEFEL, NACDA

Director of Athletics Erin Quinn traveled to Dallas in mid-July to accept the Directors' Cup on behalf of the athletics department. This marks the first time in school history that the Panthers have finished in first place in the cup standings, ending a run of 13 consecutive victories by Williams. The Panthers finished the season with 1,040.75 points.

Sharry heads to Luxembourg

CONTINUED FROM 24

an equally dominant offensive player at the next level, Sharry will need to improve on disengaging from defenders down low and demanding the ball in the paint.

"The biggest area of improvement should be physical," said Middlebury Head Coach Jeff Brown. "As Ryan continues to get stronger, his game should really take off. The European style of basketball is very tough and he will have the time to weight train and to add

more strength to his frame."

What cannot be questioned, however, is Sharry's love for the game and his desire to win. In his four-year career at Middlebury, Sharry won 103 games and led the team to four consecutive NCAA tournament appearances, two NESCAC Championships and a Final Four appearance.

"[Sharry] personified Middlebury Basketball in every way possible," Popp said. "He is tough, hardworking,

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT GR8 EIGHT

RANKING CHANGE TEAM

- 1 WOMEN'S SOCCER**
A lot of firepower returning this year, and a convincing shutout win over the weekend.
- 2 FIELD HOCKEY**
They want a championship this year. Off to a good start.
- 3 VOLLEYBALL**
Yet another women's team that could go far in NCAA's.
- 4 MEN'S RUGBY**
A last-second, 10-8 loss to Dartmouth is a sign of good things to come.
- 5 WOMEN'S GOLF**
One tournament, one win. If they keep that up, they will move up in the rankings.
- 6 MEN'S GOLF**
Handicapped, after a so-so opening tournament.
- 7 MEN'S SOCCER**
Looking to bounce back this week with three big games.
- 8 FOOTBALL**
No wins, no losses. Practicing well, and practice makes ...

unselfish and competitive. It was a joy to see him conduct himself in a professional manner everyday, and the attitude he brought to the table was contagious. The kid is a winner, and that's the best way I can describe him. He certainly earned his status as a professional basketball player."

T71 opens the 2012-2013 season Sept. 30.

SCORING SUMMER'S GAME

Thirty-eight days and 15,011 miles before the first day of the fall semester, I embarked with three friends (Owen Witek '13, Craig Thompson '13.5 and Jeff Hetzel '14) on a journey spanning from one coast of the country to the other and more than 30 states — and Canada! — in between. Our goal? To watch one baseball game in each of the 30 Major League Baseball stadiums.

From the conception of the trip — 'twas a freezing January night when we first hatched the idea — our desire to visit every stadium has been about more than a deep love of baseball. Its roots, of course, were firmly grounded in America's pastime, but the ends we envisioned were focused less on baseball and in greater part on the moments that were not intrinsically related to the sport, but could only occur as a by-product of our trip.

We vowed to be as conscious as possible of the many facets of our journey: to write a blog post after every game; to share our experiences with the people we met; to better understand the geography and people of America; and, above all, to enjoy the company of friends, bound together by a common passion.

The four of us spent 38 straight days together and more than 230 hours on the road. The comfortable confines of our car became cramped and combative at times, for if any four people spend enough time together there will be conflict. However, what emerged from that — our ability to reason with one another and respect, if not always agree with, the feelings of everyone in the car — was far more valuable than consensus or concession.

We discussed important things and inane things alike. We debated for hours if it would be possible to coast on a bike all the way from Denver to Kansas City with the same veracity and conviction as we discussed the objectivity of values and whether government should make important policy decisions with that in mind. And though in both cases we remained split in our opinions, the hours of discussion garnered a better understanding of both the questions being discussed, as well as the different ways in which we conceptualize and think about different issues.

Though on the surface many of our discussions had nothing to do with baseball, the nature of our trip and the tenor of our speech capture the very essence of baseball. Baseball, unlike football and basketball, is not about instant gratification; it is a patient game, concerned more with the passage of play than the final outcome. Baseball is a game with unspecified length, a get-there-when-you-get-there kind of game, while basketball and football scream "Are we there yet?" from the back seat.

In Linda Pastan's poem "Baseball," the narrator is skeptical that baseball has deeper significance than a simple game. "When you tried to tell me baseball was a metaphor for life," she wrote, "I didn't believe you. It's just a way of passing the time, I said. And you said: that's it. Yes."

Ultimately, our trip was nothing more than a way of passing the time. Undoubtedly it was our preferred way of passing the time, but in the end we decided to spend 38 days traveling to all 30 Major League Baseball stadiums instead of going on vacation or making money or simply hanging out.

Life boils down to how you choose to pass the time. And how better a way than in the company of friends, doing the thing you love?

— Damon Hatheway '13.5 is a sports editor from London, UK.

BY THE NUMB3RS

9 Number of points recorded by Lauren Greer '13 (5 goals, 4 assists) in Field Hockey's first two opening games.

Goal-differential advantage held by the women's soccer team over the men following a pair of contests vs. Tufts.

+4

401 Denver Broncos' quarterback Peyton Manning's career passing touchdown count following a 2 TD-game vs. Pittsburgh.

Number of kills between Amy Hart '14 and Meghan Jarchow '15 during four matches of the Endicott tournament this weekend.

94

38 Number of days that sports editor Damon Hatheway spent touring all 30 MLB stadiums this August and September.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD



WOMEN'S SOCCER vs. Tufts

2-0 W

Two early first-half goals were enough for the Panthers to hold off the Jumbos.

FIELD HOCKEY vs. M.I.T.

8-3 W

A 7-0 first half run sparked the Panthers to a 2-0 start on the year.

VOLLEYBALL vs. Susquehanna

3-0 W

Coming off an NCAA run, the team opened the year with a 3-1 weekend at Endicott.

MEN'S GOLF @ SLU Invitational

3rd Pl.

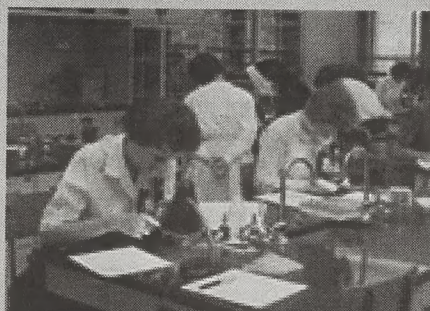
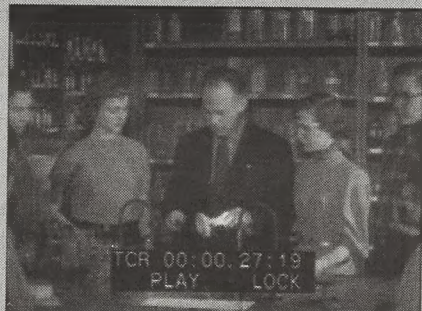
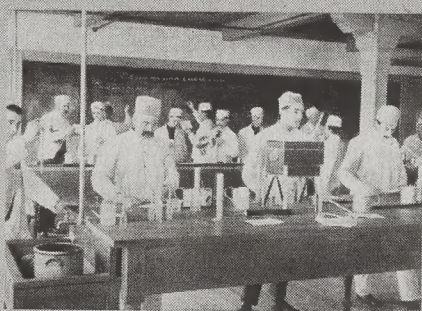
The Panthers shot a combined 303 strokes at Saint Lawrence.

MEN'S SOCCER vs. Tufts

0-2 L

Defensive mistakes led to a disappointing season-opener at home.

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FALL SPORTS



2011 RECORD
4-4
CAPTAINS
John Wiet '13, Billy Chapman '13, Ryan Moores '13

Following consecutive seasons with 4-4 finishes, the Panthers are primed to contend again in the NESCAC. In addition to preseason All-American tight end Billy Chapman '13, the 2012 team returns both members of the most prolific backfield in the league. Running back Remi Ashkar '13 has brought stability and versatility to a position plagued by injuries in recent years.

"We're really excited about the year [Ashkar] had last year," said Head Coach Bob Ritter. "He was a workhorse and did a great job not only running the ball, but his pass protection is vital and often goes unnoticed."

Ashkar's backfield mate, quarterback Mac Foote '14, certainly did not go unnoticed. In his first year at the helm of the Panthers' offense, the Newton, Mass. signal caller lit up eyes and scoreboards, leading the nation with more than 345 yards passing per game.

"[Foote] came in with a lot of the physical tools and was a great leader for us [last season]," Ritter said. "I think now [that he has] had a year with Chapman, [Zach Driscoll '13] and the offense, he's even sharper and more in tune to what's going on."

Behind an experienced offensive line featuring a talented tandem of tackles in Ryan Moores '13 and Jack Allard '14 and with a number of targets including Chapman, Driscoll, Ashkar and emerging wide out Brendan Rankowitz '15, Foote could even exceed the spectacular season he had in 2011.

Middlebury's biggest improvement, however, should be on defense where a number of promising players will attempt to drag the unit from the bottom of the league.

"I think that a few of the young guys really grew and you can already see how much more confident they are," said Ritter. "I've already seen a difference with the defense this year."

The Panthers open their season Sept. 22 at home against Bowdoin.



2011 RECORD
8-4-4
CAPTAINS
Jon Portman '13, Alvand Hajizadeh '13, Jack Freeman '13

While by no means a disappointment, the Middlebury men's soccer team regressed in 2011. A year after a 16-win season that nearly sent them to the Final Four, the Panthers finished 2011 with a record of 8-4-4 and an exit in the semifinals of the NESCAC tournament.

"If you look at the results, in critical games we tied four of them," said Head Coach Dave Saward. "I felt that last year's team was capable, but the goal-scoring gods were against us in crucial moments."

This year's team will have to fill the shoes of a talented graduating class.

"Tyler Macnee '12 was one of the best players I've ever coached," said Saward. "Robbie Redmond '12 was also a special player. We could do some things with those players that can't often be done at this level."

In the wake of losing these gifted seniors, Saward and his team will look to build a system around the strengths of the current players. The team will play with a 4-4-2 formation, with Noah Goss-Woliner '15 as a holding central midfielder and an injury-free Adam Batista '13 anchoring the wing. Deklan Robinson '16 and Tyler Bonini '16 saw action in their first career games during the team's opening 2-0 loss to Tufts on Saturday, and they figure to contribute moving forward.

One spot of bad news for the Panthers is the loss of Jon Portman '13 to a sprained MCL injury in preseason.

"Portman looked very good and it's devastating to have him sidelined for any amount of time in such a short season," said Saward. "The door shuts and opens for somebody else. That's how we have to move forward as he heals. Our motto is 'don't be afraid to be a hero,' and I expect other members to step up in his absence."

The Panthers play at Colby this Saturday.



2011 RECORD
13-4-2
CAPTAINS
Maddy Boston '13, Amy Schlueter '13, Colby Gibbs '13 Lucy Wagner '13

The 2012 women's soccer team stands to improve from the squad that advanced to the sectional round of the NCAA tournament last season. The Panthers return 10 of 11 starters, including NSCAA New England All-Stars Julia Favorito '14 and Scarlett Kirk '14.

During the 2011 campaign, Kirk accounted for nearly half of the team's 30 goals, finding the back of the net 14 times in 19 games. Favorito, meanwhile, led the team with five assists, while scoring two goals of her own from her spot in the midfield.

Kirk and Favorito are joined up front by captain Amy Schlueter '13 and Rachel Madding '13, who accounted for 10 combined goals and three assists. Incredibly, of the team's 52 combined goals and assists (30 goals, 22 assists) only one of them was recorded by a member of the graduating senior class.

In addition to returning a dangerous attack, Middlebury will also bring back a dominant defensive core, headlined by captains Colby Gibbs '13 and Lucy Wagner '13. Wagner, Gibbs and the combination of Jocelyn Remmert '13 and Elizabeth Foody '13 in goal were integral members of a defensive unit that held opponents scoreless for eight straight games, much of which occurred during the NESCAC and NCAA tournaments.

It would seem that the bar cannot be raised high enough for 10th-ranked Middlebury, which opened the season with a thumping 2-0 win over Tufts, a team the Panthers drew with in their opener last year.

"We build on last year's successes by saying 'not good enough,' Gibbs wrote in an email. "Although we did pretty well, we are still missing one thing, the NESCAC championship. The expectations for the season are to be one of the strongest teams in the NESCAC and also one of the hardest working."



NCAA TOURNAMENT
WOMEN'S: 14TH, MEN'S: T-21ST
CAPTAINS
W: Keely Levins '13
M: William Prince '13

The Middlebury men's and women's golf teams opened the season last weekend at the St. Lawrence Invitational, where the women took the title and the men finished third.

The men's golf team, led by captain William Prince '13, seeks to continue its NESCAC dominance after bringing home the league title last year for a second year in a row. Along with Prince, other returning heavy hitters include Rob Donahoe '14, Chris Atwood '14 and Eric Laorr '15. Andrew Emerson '13 will return as an integral member of the team after recovering from an ACL injury.

Emerson is "a big pick up, [and] we're looking good heading into the season," said Prince. "We expect to win multiple events, especially the NESCAC Qualifier. Williams will give us a run for our money as always, but if we play well and stay mentally tough we will win. We have extremely talented players with plenty of tournament experience."

There is no shortage of talent among the women, led by captain Keely Levins '13. Last season, Michelle Peng '15 and Jordan Glatt '15 consistently contributed to the team's success, which included a strong string of second place finishes throughout both seasons. Levins, along with teammates Caroline Kenter '14 and Alison Andrews '12.5, will be pushing a young team that includes newcomers Emma Kitchen '14 and Monica Chow '16.

"Walking away from [last] season," said Levins, "it's hard to not be positive about how consistent we were in a sport where consistency can be elusive. I think we're motivated to challenge Williams a little more this season [...] We're all excited to see what the combination of new talent and a little experience can produce."

A meeting with the Ephs is scheduled for the first weekend in October, at Williams.

2011 RECORD
MEN'S: T-21ST
CAPTAINS
W: N/A
M: Spencer
render '13

The team will fall with the men's singles play the double.

The American Leung '13, Faber '13 seniors' tournament Year home play in the team.

Coach the helm, last spring its rise to "Every Morgan's team envied other to b

The Williams spend the ITA Region

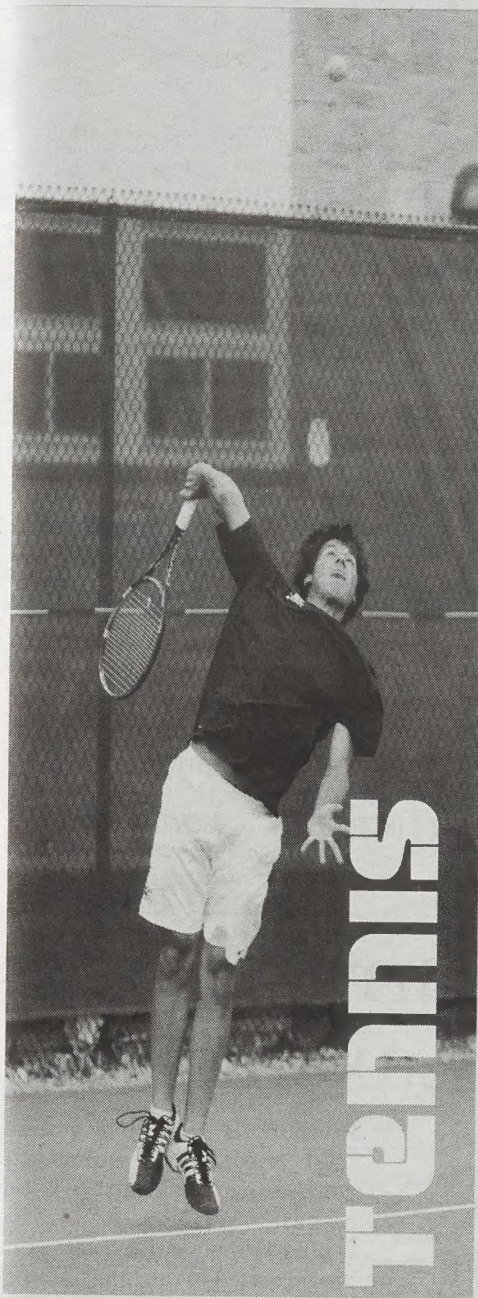
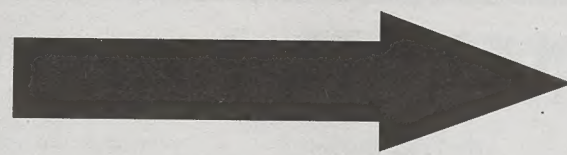
This was the Middlebury tournament the team's year's NESCAC

Last year [towards] champions

While Jones '14 but solid Lunghino Parower '13 talented b

"We have Lunghino right away

PREVIEW



2011 RECORD
MEN'S: 14-7, WOMEN'S: 15-4
CAPTAINS
W: N/A
M: Spencer Lunghino '13, William Oberrender '13, Alec Parower '13

The tennis teams take to the courts this fall with championship expectations. Both the men's and women's teams boast star singles players, a host of strong returners on the doubles court and talented first-years.

The women's team returns three All-Americans (Leah Kepping '13 and Lok-Sze Leung '15 in singles; Kepping and Brittney Faber '13 in doubles) and a core group of seniors. Leung, who won the ITA singles tournament and ITA National Rookie of the Year honor last fall, finished second in singles play in the NCAA tournament last May, while the team reached the NCAA Regional Finals.

Coach Mike Morgan, in his sixth year at the helm, won ITA National Coach of the Year last spring, and expects the team to continue its rise to the top of the national rankings.

"Everyone is expected to be a leader," Morgan said. "It should be a completely new team environment. They want to push each other to be the best program in the country."

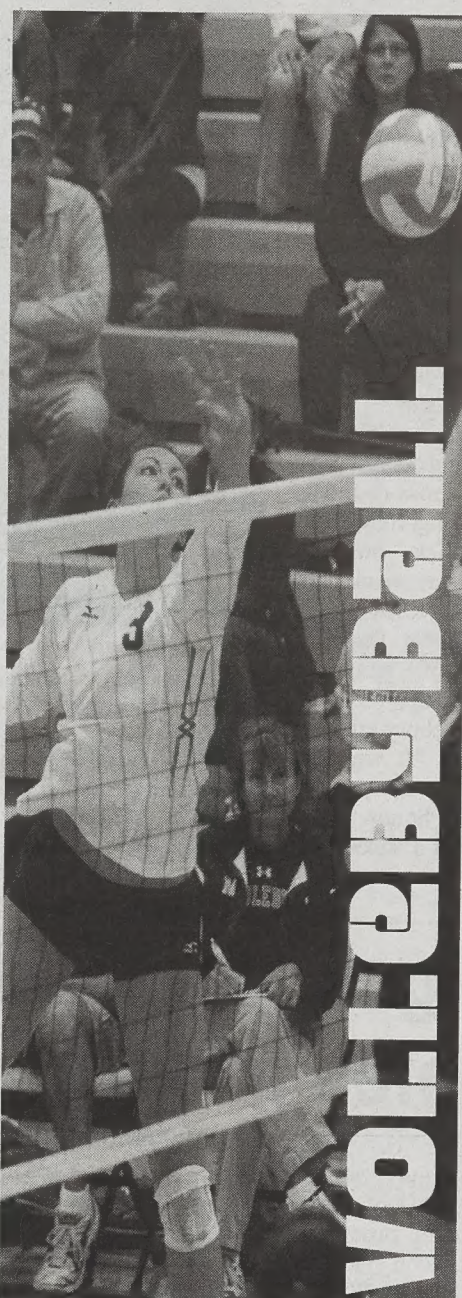
The women opened the season at the Williams Invitational on Sept. 7, and will spend the rest of September preparing for the ITA Regional at the end of the month.

This weekend the men's tennis team hosts the Middlebury Invitational, the opening tournament of the 2012-2013 campaign and the team's first tournament since exiting last year's NCAA tournament in the Round of 16.

Last year the team "made great strides [towards] competing for a national championship," wrote coach Bob Hansen.

While two-time All-American Brantner Jones '14 is abroad, Hansen expects a small but solid class of seniors, including Spencer Lunghino '13, Will Oberrender '13 and Alec Parower '13, to play key matches and guide a talented but unproven cast of first-years.

"We have a great recruiting class," Lunghino said. "We hope they can contribute right away."



2011 RECORD
23-9
CAPTAINS
Caitlin Barrett '13, Madeline Firestone '13, Megan Jarchow '14

More than any other team on campus this fall, the Volleyball team may be poised for a repeat of its success from 2011. After only suffering the loss of two seniors from the Class of 2012, the Panthers will look to build on a 23-9 season that saw them advance farther in the NCAA tournament than any other team in program history. Middlebury proceeded to the Round of 16 before losing to powerhouse Cortland State by a score of 3-1.

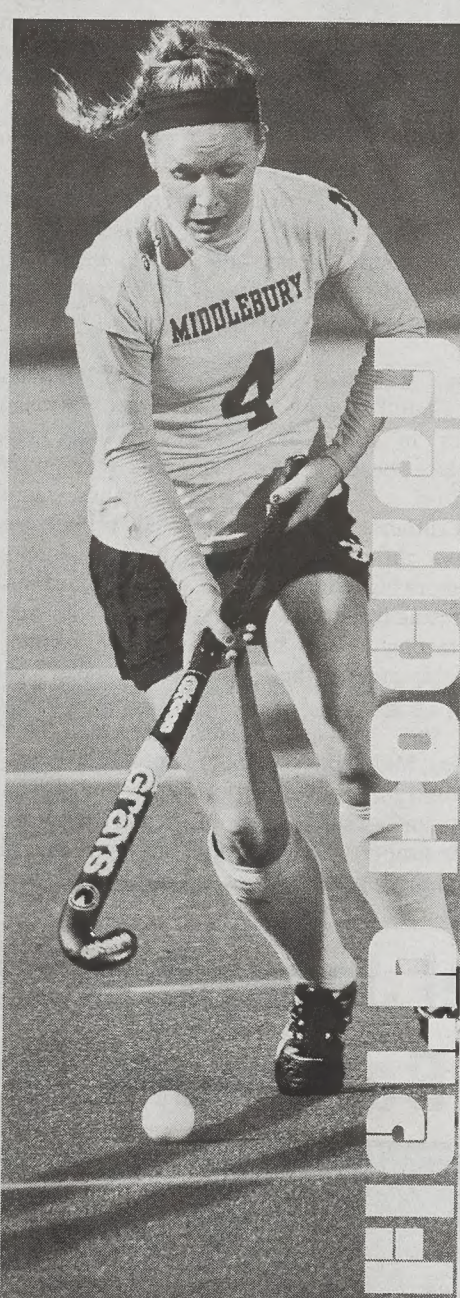
The team returns to the court anchored by Caitlin Barrett '13, Julia Gibbs '13 and Megan Jarchow '14. Barrett received AVCA New England All-Region honors in 2011. Gibbs and Jarchow collected honorable mentions.

"With a strong core, it is going to be all the returners this year that will really take control of our success," said Maddie Firestone '13. "We also have a bunch of very versatile players who have the ability to be thrown in whenever and wherever, like Meg Anderson '14, Sarah Studwell '13, and Olivia Kolodka '15."

Coach Sarah Raunecker enters her 17th season as head coach of the Panthers and is fresh off NESCAC Coach of the Year honors in 2011, after leading the team to its third conference title.

"We have a very veteran team returning, despite losing two four-year starters to graduation last year," said Raunecker. "Strong leadership is imperative for success, and I am excited about what our leaders are doing right now."

Middlebury opened its season in style at the Endicott Tournament this past weekend, going 3-1 with its only loss coming against UMASS-Boston. Jarchow and Amy Hart '14 led the team in kills, while Barrett continued her proficiency in the digging game. The Panthers then competed against Union on Tuesday before traveling to Wesleyan to face the Cardinals this Friday.



2011 RECORD
17-4
CAPTAINS
Charlotte Gardiner '13, Margaret Souther '13, Lauren Greer '13

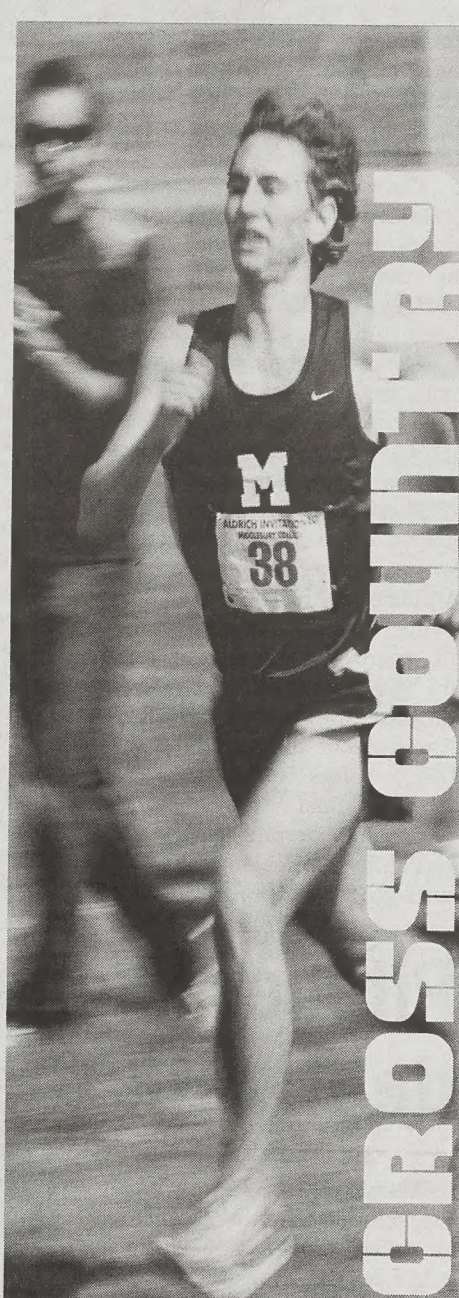
The women's field hockey team will look to build upon last year's NCAA runner-up performance as they take the field for the 2012 campaign. Hopes of returning to the national title game will hinge upon senior All-Americans Lauren Greer '13, Margaret Souther '13 and Charlotte Gardiner '13. The three will also serve as captains this year for Coach Katharine DeLorenzo's squad. Last season's national player of the year, Greer holds Middlebury single-season records for goals (35), assists (16) and points (86).

Behind their senior leaders, the Panthers return seven players who started against The College of New Jersey in last year's title game. The Middlebury attack is largely intact from a year ago, as Greer, Gardiner and Catherine Fowler '15 lead what promises to be one of the nation's most dynamic offensive units. Souther and Meredith Rowe '15 will anchor the team on the defensive end. The Panthers will have to replace goalkeeper Becca Shaw '12, who held opponents to 1.21 goals per game last season. Madeline Brooks '13 and Emily Knapp '15 have each seen time in goal. The Panthers round out the roster with six first-years.

"We are going into this season with the mindset of unfinished business," said Alyssa Dimaio '15. "We are looking to create a team flow that will not only get us to where we were last year but also win us a national championship."

Middlebury hosts Bowdoin on Sept. 22, a game that will have season-long implications for both teams.

The very next day, the Panthers take on Amherst in another match with loaded NESCAC implications. Middlebury lost both of those games a year ago — including an overtime thriller at Bowdoin — only to exact revenge on both the Lord Jeffs and Polar Bears in NCAA tournament play.



2011 NCAA TOURNAMENT
WOMEN'S: 2ND, MEN'S: 13TH
CAPTAINS
M: Jack Davies '13, Patrick Hebble '13
W: Emily Atwood '14, Katie Rominger '14, Juliet Ryan-Davis '13

The cross country program began the season last weekend at the Dartmouth Invitational, returning to action for the first time since the men finished 13th, and the women 2nd, at the 2011 NCAA Championship. Coach Nicole Wilkerson, in her first season at Middlebury, was New England Region Coach of the Year.

Both teams have another run to the National Championship in mind, but a strong NESCAC conference stands in the way. On the men's side, Tufts, Bowdoin and Williams pose especially strong challenges. On the women's side, perennial rival Williams expects to compete for the conference title.

Both the men and the women graduated key runners last spring.

Captains Jack Davies '13 and Patrick Hebble '13, the top two returners from last year's side, should pace the men this fall. Juliet Ryan-Davis '13, Emily Attwood '14, and Katie Rominger '14 will serve as captains on the women's side, while senior Addie Tousley '13, who finished 6th at last year's NCAA tournament, is expected to lead the runners on the course. A strong group of incoming first-years could push both the men and the women teams ahead of the NESCAC pack.

"They are talented and ready to represent Middlebury well," said Coach Wilkerson.

Bowdoin will host the conference tournament on Oct. 27. Before then, the teams will run the Aldrich, Williams, Westfield and St. Michael's invitational races.

Coach Wilkerson is optimistic about maintaining the program's high standards.

"We have been successful in the past because teams do a lot of training in the summer months and come back to campus in excellent shape," said Wilkerson. "Even though we have only been training for a few days in preseason, it is clear that the teams have done their homework."

Middlebury wins first ever Directors' Cup

By Fritz Parker

After a strong spring season, Middlebury overtook Washington University (Mo.) this past June to win its first ever Directors' Cup, awarded annually to the top athletic program in each of the three NCAA divisions as well as the NAIA.

The win follows a streak of eight consecutive top-five finishes for the Panthers, who finished second to conference rival Williams a year ago, and breaks a streak of 13 consecutive wins for the Ephs.

The competition, sponsored by both the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) and Learfield Sports, awards points for overall team finishes in NCAA play in up to 18 sports, with a school earning up to 100 points for a first-place finish. Middlebury racked up 389.75 points in the spring for a total of 1040.75, outpacing runner-up Washington University, who finished with 980.25. Williams rounded out the top three with 964.50 points.

The final tally favored Middlebury despite the fact that no Panthers teams won titles in the 2011-2012 year, the first time in 10

years that the school has failed to win any national championships. This year's winning point total is actually less than the 1063.17 points earned by the Panthers last year, which earned second place.

"It was just chance last year that we had the right combination of success to win the Cup," said Director of Athletics Erin Quinn. "It is rewarding that it is the by-product of hard work and commitment across the department, and not the focused attempt to specifically win the Cup."

Top-ten finishes in four women's fall sports placed Middlebury in the running at second place heading into the winter season.

The Panthers retained the second spot through the winter with four more high finishes, while also benefitting from the women's distance medley relay's national championship run on the indoor track.

With the spring season approaching, Middlebury sat 16.50 points behind leader Washington University and 21.25 ahead of third-place Amherst. Middlebury used four more top-ten finishes to

leapfrog Washington for the top spot in the final standings and win its first cup in school history.

In addition to Middlebury's overall win, members of the NESCAC placed strongly across the board. Schools from the conference took three of the top four places overall and four of the top seven. No other conference had even two members finish among the top ten.

654.25 of Middlebury's points during the year came in women's sports, accounting for nearly 63 percent of the final total, as all four of the Panthers' top-five finishes were on the women's side.

"What made the difference this year was the success of our women's teams; cross-country, field hockey, swimming, volleyball, hockey, indoor track, outdoor track, tennis and lacrosse all had strong showings in NCAA play," said Associate Athletic Director and head coach of Women's Lacrosse Missy Foote, who has been with the Middlebury athletic program since 1977. "It was the accomplishments of many that contributed to this honor. That to me is the mark of a successful athletic program."



Pitcher Michael Joseph '13 signs deal with the Baltimore Orioles

By Owen Teach

Many rising seniors spent the summer months completing an internship that they hoped might lead to a future job. They worked hard, tried to impress their supervisors and took every opportunity to show how beneficial they could be as full-time employees.

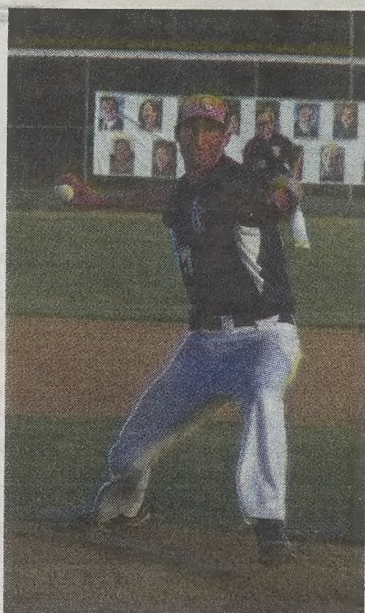
Michael Joseph '13 was no different. Well, maybe a little bit different. Instead of donning a suit and tie, Joseph opted for his baseball glove and the uniform of the Torrington Titans of the Futures Collegiate Baseball League (FCBL) as he sought to catch the eye of a scout for a shot at a major league contract.

Following 21 relief pitching appearances for the Titans that featured 24.4 innings, 22 strikeouts and an earned runs average of 3.28, Joseph found himself signing a contract with the Baltimore Orioles on Aug. 11.

One of the major reasons for his contract offer was his performance during the FCBL Scout Day on July 26, during which he threw a 10-pitch bullpen that attracted scouts from approximately six teams. Suddenly, Joseph was a major league prospect.

"Before the pro day I had no contact with any teams," said Joseph. "After that I had teams calling me and scouts at almost every single one of my games."

He also had the chance to try



Mike Joseph '13 pitching for the Torrington Titans in the FCBL.

out at the stadium of his favorite team, the Philadelphia Phillies.

"Being able to take the field at Citizens Bank Park and throw a bullpen session was an amazing experience for a hometown Phillies fan," said Joseph.

The 6'7", 215 pound Joseph ended up hitting 93 miles per hour on the radar gun, a number that he hopes to get up closer to 95 mph this fall when he heads to Florida for a five-week instructional league with all of the top Orioles prospects.

Another impressive aspect to Joseph's signing was that the

FCBL, having just completed its second year of operation, is comprised of mostly [Division I] athletes and other top prospects. Joseph, however, said he was impressed at how NESCAC baseball compares to the league.

"It was a huge surprise that NESCAC baseball actually stood up really well to Division I competition this summer," said Joseph. "It's a huge testament to the hitting and pitching in the NESCAC."

Joseph plans to take this spring off from classes, as he will join the minor league system of the Orioles, before returning in the fall and graduating in February. This means Joseph will forgo his senior season with the Panthers, a decision that he did not take lightly.

"I'm going to miss Middlebury baseball," said Joseph. "It was one of my best life experiences. This was a very tough decision and it will definitely be hard to be away from the team in the spring."

Joseph aims to keep his eyes on the prize, however, as he makes it very clear what his plans are from here.

"I need to keep improving and getting stronger year by year," said Joseph. "The only reason I'm doing this is to make the big club."

The Orioles could use the help too, as they are down to the wire with the New York Yankees in search of their first AL East title since 1997.

"I've actually started watching Orioles games now," said Joseph. "It's exciting to watch them make a playoff run."

Ryan Sharry '12 signs deal in Luxembourg

By Damon Hatheawy

The final play of Ryan Sharry '12's basketball career will not be Travis Farrell's buzzer beating in the Sweet 16 of the NCAA tournament. The former Middlebury standout and two-time All-American has signed a contract to play overseas with T71 Dudelange Basketball, a team from the Diekirch League, the top flight basketball division in Luxembourg. Much like the Panthers, Sharry's new team has enjoyed sustained success over the last three years, winning the league title in 2010 and 2011 before falling last season in the championship game.

Sharry joins a growing number of former Panthers who have continued their careers overseas after graduating. Evan Thompson '07 (Denmark), Ben Rudin '09 (Israel) and Tim Edwards '10 (Germany) have all gone on to play abroad professionally, enjoying substantial success in the international game.

After signing with an agent this summer, Sharry generated interest from teams in Germany, England, Portugal and Slovakia before signing with the Luxembourg club earlier this month. Despite Sharry's accolades and stellar play at the collegiate level, a stigma against Division III players among teams and agents internationally made finding a team anything but a guarantee.

"A lot of European agents are very superficial," Sharry wrote in an email. "If you went [to a

Division III school] they think there is something wrong with you, so the first contract is the hardest to get."

Sharry's versatility, however, is well suited to the international game where big men are expected to finish with both hands around the rim, knock down outside jump shots and be willing passers. The 6'9" forward from Braintree, Mass. demonstrated his ability to do that and more during his career at Middlebury. Sharry finished the 2011-2012 season with a field goal percentage of .614, trailing only teammate Peter Lynch '13 in the NESCAC, while also shooting almost 43 percent from beyond the arc and dishing out two assists per game, the third highest on the team behind guards Jake Wolfen '13 and Joey Kizel '14.

"Ryan will be a successful player in Europe because of his uncanny ability to score the basketball," said Middlebury Assistant Coach Alex Popp. "He is a reliable post player, but his best asset at the next level will be stretching the defense by shooting from the perimeter. He is an ideal pick-and-pop big man."

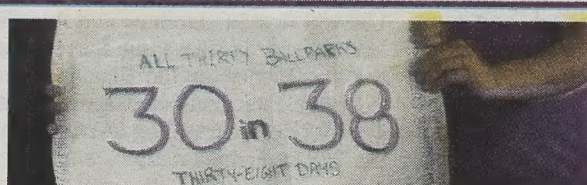
While Sharry's soft shooting touch and tremendous range make him a nightmare to defend on the perimeter for players his size, he struggled at times offensively asserting his presence in the low post against strong, physical defenders. To be

SEE SHARRY, PAGE 21

INSIDE SPORTS



FALL SPORTS
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30 MLB PARKS IN 38
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